The Marker Lamp

Volume 65 Number 1 Winter 2019

Robert Barnett
Master Model Railroader
# 605
February 1, 2018
San Jacinto Model Rails Houston

The Marker Lamp

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The Lone Star Region of the
National Model Railroad Association

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The editorial policy of The Marker Lamp, the official publication of The Lone Star Region, shall be to contribute, wherever possible, to the promotion, growth and understanding of the hobby of Model Railroading, within the confines of good taste and responsibility. The Marker Lamp is published once each quarter by and for the members of The Lone Star Region of The National Model Railroad Association. Articles appearing in The Marker Lamp are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of the officers or membership of The Lone Star Region or The National Model Railroad Association.

Address all correspondence, news, photos and drawings to the editor. All material will be gladly accepted and will be used depending on the availability of space and suitability of material. None will be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided. Correspondence relating to Pike Ads and Dealer Ads should be addressed to Speed Muller lsrtreasurer@huntatrophy.com

Cover photo
Bob Barnett receives his Master Model Railroader plaque from Chuck Lind.

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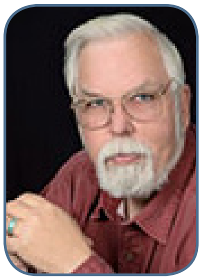


President's Message

by Chuck Lind, MMR
Chucklind46@gmail.com

As you read this column winter (or what we call winter in Texas) will be leaving us and the pleasant temperatures of spring will be upon us. Don't let all those outdoor chores sidetrack your model railroad activities. This is also the time of the year that train shows are in full swing. I was able to visit the Plano train show after the Board meeting where I purchased a few needed items. Houston will have had their show buy the time you read this closely followed by San Antonio and New Braunfels, I am sure I am missing several others so check your local hobby shop for shows in your area as well as the up coming events in this Marker Lamp.

We had the Lone Star Regions Mid-Year Board meeting in Frisco, Texas at the Drury Hotel. This gave members of the Board the chance to see the hotel where we will be holding our Lone Star Region Convention, June 27-29. It is a very nice hotel located just north of the Dallas area and I can tell you from experience that the evening "Kick Back" (food and drinks) was a great experience, I don't see any reason to leave the hotel for my evening meal. Great food and good drinks. The hotel is located just minutes away from the Museum of American Railroad.

Many items were covered at the Board meeting and the minutes are available for you to read in this issue of the Marker Lamp. One of the items I am most proud of is that we approved 9 youth memberships for the first time. Be thinking of a youth member to nominate for next year, contact Jim Lemmond if you need further information. Remember youth are the future of our hobby.

Houston has volunteered to host the 2020 convention it will be held in conjunction with the San Jacinto Model Railroad Clubs yearly train show. You will have the normal clinics and contest plus you will be able to shop for your modeling needs between clinics. Bob Barnett will be chairing the convention and more details will be available at this year's convention. We are still looking for a city to host the 2021 Convention and hopefully someone will step up (come on Lubbock, Amarillo, San Antonio, Baton Rouge we haven't been to your city in quite a while) at the LSR Convention this year.

I would like to ask all our members to remember Leo Palitti and his wife Lorrie in your prayers. Leo was recently diagnosed with cancer. Leo and his wife are great model builders and have been regulars in the contest room over the past few years. If you haven't taken time to see their layout you need to, it is a sight to behold. I have visited it at least four times and I am still discovering things that I missed during previous visits. Leo said he will be having surgery to install a port and will be going through radiation treatments by the time you read this. He is grateful to have so many model railroad friends and wants everyone to remember the power of prayer goes a long way.

Registration is open for the upcoming LSR Convention. Please register early so the committee can plan accordingly. Donna and her committee are putting together a great convention with some great clinics. The highlight for the convention will be a visit to the Museum of the American Railroad in Frisco, and Train Topia on Saturday afternoon, the admission is covered in your registration. There is additional information about the convention is this issue. The big change this year is that after visiting the Museum in Frisco you will be supplied with restaurants in the area and dinner is on your own.

We will gather back at the hotel for a social time and awards as well as other business where we will enjoy desert. Yes, this is a big change, but the cost of hotel meals has skyrocketed over the past few years so to keep the cost of the convention affordable we are trying something new.

According to a survey taken after the convention in Austin the main reason folks come to a convention is for the clinics and the fellowship of other modelers and there will be plenty of that.

Don’t Be Afraid of the Yard

by Riley Triggs
rileytriggs@gmail.com
ponyrr.blogspot.com
modelrailroaddesign.blogspot.com

BILL
SORNSIN

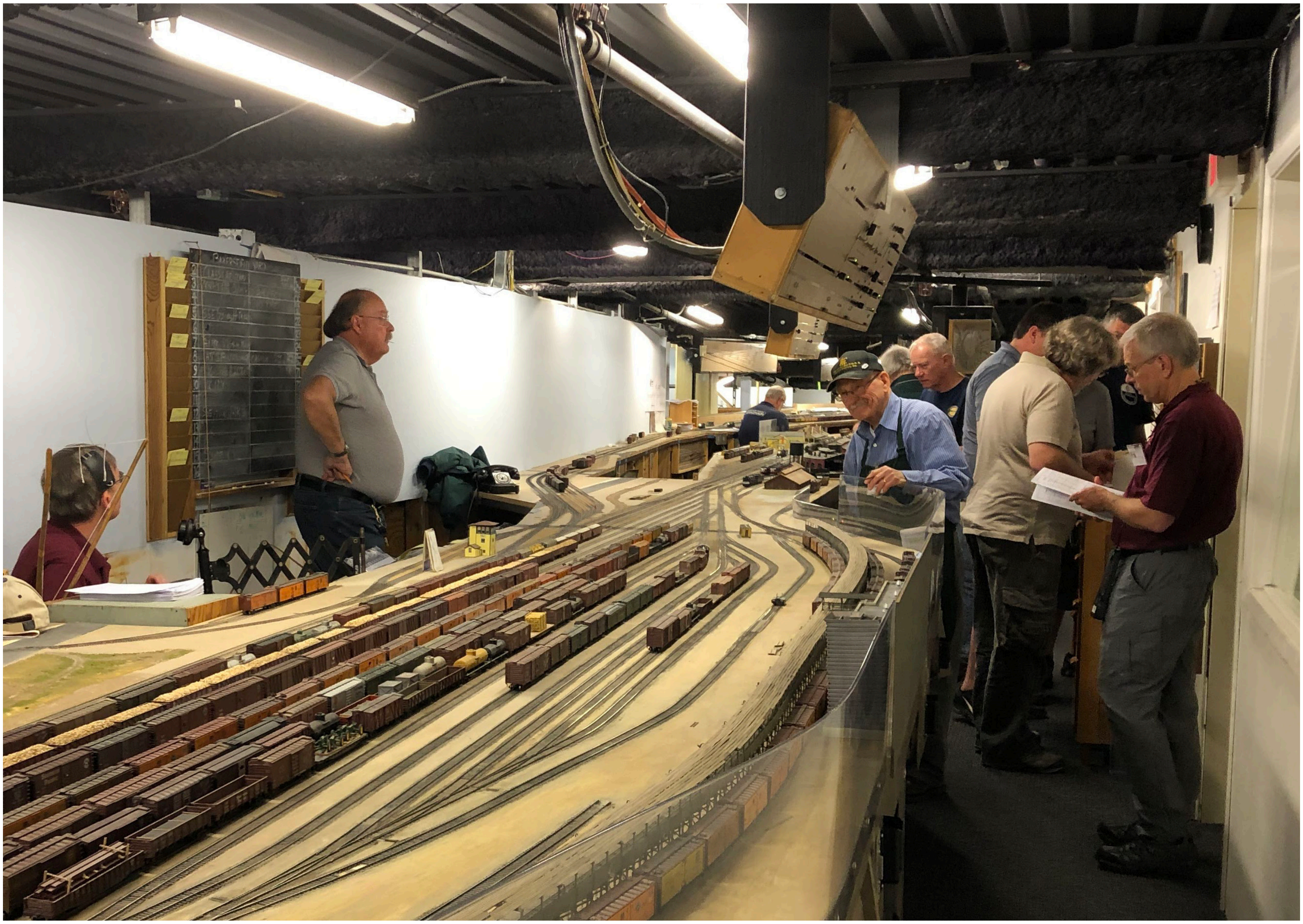
Bill Sornsin grabs his train orders from Allen, the Kern Junction operator, before heading out from the Southern Pacific Bakersfield Yard towards Tehachapi Loop at the La Mesa Model Railroad Club at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum.

So many times at operating sessions, people are don’t sign up for yard jobs because they are afraid to. Some of that anxiety comes from the large amount of activity in a yard, some from being worried about the responsibility of keeping the rest of the railroad moving, and some because they aren’t familiar with basic yard moves. But whatever the reason, in the end they are really missing out on an interesting and important part of model railroad operating that allows you a deeper understanding of how the model and prototype railroads work.

On my first visit to the La Mesa Model Railroad Club’s Tehachapi Pass layout, I signed up for (and survived!) a four hour shift in the Southern Pacific Bakersfield Yard. If you are not familiar with that layout, it is very intimidating at an enormous 6500 sf using Timetable and Train Order operation on 1600 linear feet of mainline track.

If you are with a good bunch of human beings, you shouldn’t worry about not knowing how to work a yard perfectly. In my case, I was a yard goat and the yardmaster I was working for explained clearly what to do, and why I was doing it.

This relieved any responsibility from me for knowing anything - I just had to do what I was told. But because he explained why were doing the moves, I started to get a deeper understanding of how traffic flowed on the railroad that I didn’t get from my main line assignments thus far. I learned what trains were, where they were going and what they did.



Yardmaster Mike (in gray shirt, left) directs people and freight in Southern Pacific's Bakersfield Yard, which is the kitchen of the La Mesa Tehachapi Pass layout.

I also had time to probe more deeply because there was intermittent down time, and I had a long running, informative conversation made possible by working on a small team in one spot for a lengthy amount of time.

So for me, it is important to try to get into the yard of a layout to get an understanding of the larger system of how the railroad operates. I encourage you to try it. Make it clear to the Yardmaster that you are new to the layout and/or operating in a yard, and they should take care of you.

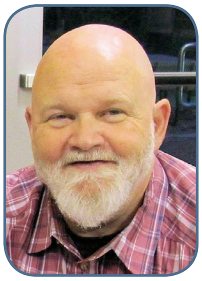
If you can set aside your fears, I guarantee you will learn something you didn't know, and you will probably walk away with a couple of new friends who also set aside their anxiety and dove into the deep end of model railroading with you.

Riley

Call board and tower operator at Kern Jct. in Bakersfield Yard

BAKERSFIELD YARD

Up the Tracks Events Calendar



By Bill Dryden
NMRA & LSR Life Member

Here are upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA Scale Rails and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via e-mail at bdr149@airmail.net.

Lone Star Region Annual Convention (2019)
Arriving Soon, the Texas Special, the 2019 NMRA Lone Star Region Convention!
June 27-30, 2019; Drury Inn & Suites Dallas; Frisco, TX
More information at http://2019texasspecial.com/ or http://www.lonestarregion.com/
Come all!!
PARTICIPATE!!!

RECURRING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

LSR Division 2 -– Metairie, LA
LSR Division 2 meets on Mondays between July 30th to October 1st at the Crescent City Model Railroad Club, 601 N. Lester Ave in Metairie, LA 70003 at 6:30 PM for Modular Monday. We will continue building our modular layout by building benchwork, designing the track, laying the roadbed and track, wiring, planning scenery, installing the scenery and basically building a modular project railroad and teaching all the steps along the way so that we can get the layout operating in time for an event in October. We will also use the layout for the Ponchatoula Train Shows. This will officially be a Lone Star Region, Division 2 project, so no club affiliation is necessary except for being an NMRA member. If you are interested, please come out to participate and help. The more modules we can build the larger the layout can be. For more information contact Ken Mason at series9parts@cox.net.

LSR Division 3 - Trinity River Division – Allen
The Trinity River Division meets on the Third Saturday of every month at the Christ Servant Lutheran Church, Allen Texas. Occasionally things change due to scheduling conflicts so pay close attention to the email meeting notices that go out a week before the meeting. If you would like to be added to the email list contact Donna Orr at donnalorrtx@gmail.com.

LSR Division 4 – Cen-Tex Division – Austin
The Cen-Tex Division meets bi-monthly at the Austin Northwest Recreational Center, 2913 Northland Drive, Austin, TX. Meetings are held at 10:00 am on the Second Saturday of the odd months and include clinics, show-and-tell, DCC minute, social activities and a layout open house. For more information about upcoming meetings, see http://centexnmra.org or contact director@centexnmra.org to be added to the mail list.

LSR Division 8 - Texas Gulf Division – Houston
The Texas Gulf Division presents hands-on-clinics every second Saturday of each month at the Bayland Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston. The clinic times are 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All are welcome. To be added to the Division 8 mailing list contact Jim Lemmond at jimlem@comcast.net. The Division 8 web site is http://texasgulfdivision.org/

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers - San Antonio
The Alamo Model Railroad Engineers meets the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Zucht Building at the Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio TX. For more information call Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777; or visit the web site www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com.

Austin Model Railway Society - Austin
The Austin Model Railway Society is an HO scale modular group that is open to new members and meets once a month. For more information please email Riley Triggs at president@austinrailway.org or visit the web site www.austinrailway.org.

Houston Area Live Steamers
HALS has over 9,000 feet of track for you to enjoy and ride on most any Saturday of the year. Someone is usually there every Saturday with special run, operations, waybills/timetable, work and fun run days scheduled throughout the year. Our public run days are the third Saturday of the month March through November. Come see our 2,500 foot expansion in Phase 4. Model Railroaders (any scale) are welcome to attend most any time. Check our web site out at www.hals.org for schedule of events or e-mail Rick White – rick.white.jr@gmail.com for more information.

New Braunfels Railroad Museum
Kids Fun Day is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. New Braunfels Railroad Museum, 302 South San Antonio Street, in the 1907 Restored Railroad Depot; New Braunfels, TX. Museum phone (830) 627-2447. Kids of all ages will have the opportunity to run model trains and become a Jr. Engineer. Also among the displays at the Kids Fun Day will be a large US Army Model Garden (G) Scale and Lego Trains. Visit our Steam Engine, Caboose, Dining Car (available for Birthday Parties) and Box Car. There will be other fun, train related activities, additional model trains, train artifacts, our 1907 depot are on display. The Railroad Museum opens at 10:00 am on Saturdays. For field trip scheduling and more information, call Howard Young (210) 542-6121, or visit us at www.nbrrm.org.

North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs – Irving
The North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs (NTC) meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Visit the website www.dfwtrainshows.com for more information about the NTC, its meeting site or member clubs.

Texas Northern Model Railroad Club – Plano
The Texas Northern Model Railroad Club business meeting is the 1st Thursday of the month and for regular meetings on Thursday evenings and most Saturdays. If you like to operate, come by on Tuesday nights to check on our progress in setting up operations. Located in Colin Creek Mall, Plano, TX, outside JC Penney's on the lower level. For more information: www.modelrailroadclub.org.

Texas Western Model Railroad Club – Forest Hills
The Texas Western Model Railroad Club meets for its business meeting every 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. The Club is located at 6808 Forest Hills Drive, Forest Hills, TX. For more information: (682) 587-2092 or www.twmrc.org or email cdo@twmrc.org.

EVENTS AND SHOWS

March

16th – 17th Cotton Belt Historical Society, Tyler TAP Chapter Annual Train Show. Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $7, Kids under 12 Free. Tyler Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Drive, Tyler, TX. For more information: Steven Garbarino (903) 388-5354, or www.cottonbeltdepotmuseum.com.

April

13th – 14th New Braunfels Annual Spring Jamboree & Train Show. (Sponsored by New Braunfels Railroad Museum). Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $8, Kids 5 to 17 $2 Kids under 5 Free. Scouts & Scout Leaders in uniform Free. New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 South Castell Avenue, New Braunfels, TX. More information: www.newbraunfelsrailroadmuseum.org/trainshow.

May

4th – 5th Austin Area Train Show. 16,000 feet of model railroading fun, with operating model and Lego railroads, dozens of vendors, a raffle and a self-guided area layout tour. Sat. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sun. 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Admission $7 (children free), good both days. Williamson County Expo Center, 5350 Bill Pickett Trail, Taylor, TX 76574. More information: https://austinrailway.org/trainshow.html

18th – 19th Historic Jefferson Train Show. Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $7, Kids under 6 Free. 223 W. Austin Street, Jefferson, TX. More information: Norman Bell (903) 240-6039, or http://historicjeffersontrainshow.com/.

Excursion Train Trips

Austin Steam Train; Cedar Park, TX; (512) 477-8468; www.austinsteamtrain.org

Grapevine Vintage Railroad; Grapevine, TX; (817) 410-3185; www.gvrr.com

Old Hickory Railroad; Jackson, LA; (225) 634-7397; www.louisianasteamtrain.com

Texas State Railroad; Palestine & Rusk, TX; (888) 987-2461; www.texasstaterr.com

Please consider our deadlines for submittals and publications to allow adequate lead time to correctly announce your event – Column submission deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October; publication of the Marker Lamp is the middle of the following month.

ML

2019

AUSTIN AREA

TRAIN SHOW

Saturday May 4   10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday May 5   10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Williamson County Expo Center
5350 Bill Pickett Trail - Taylor, Texas
Just minutes past the Dell Diamond!

Enjoy over 16,000 square feet of model railroading!
Operating Model and Lego Railroads • All Scales • Dozens of Vendors • Buy and Sell
Raffle • Self-Guided Area Layout Tour • Concessions • Free Parking

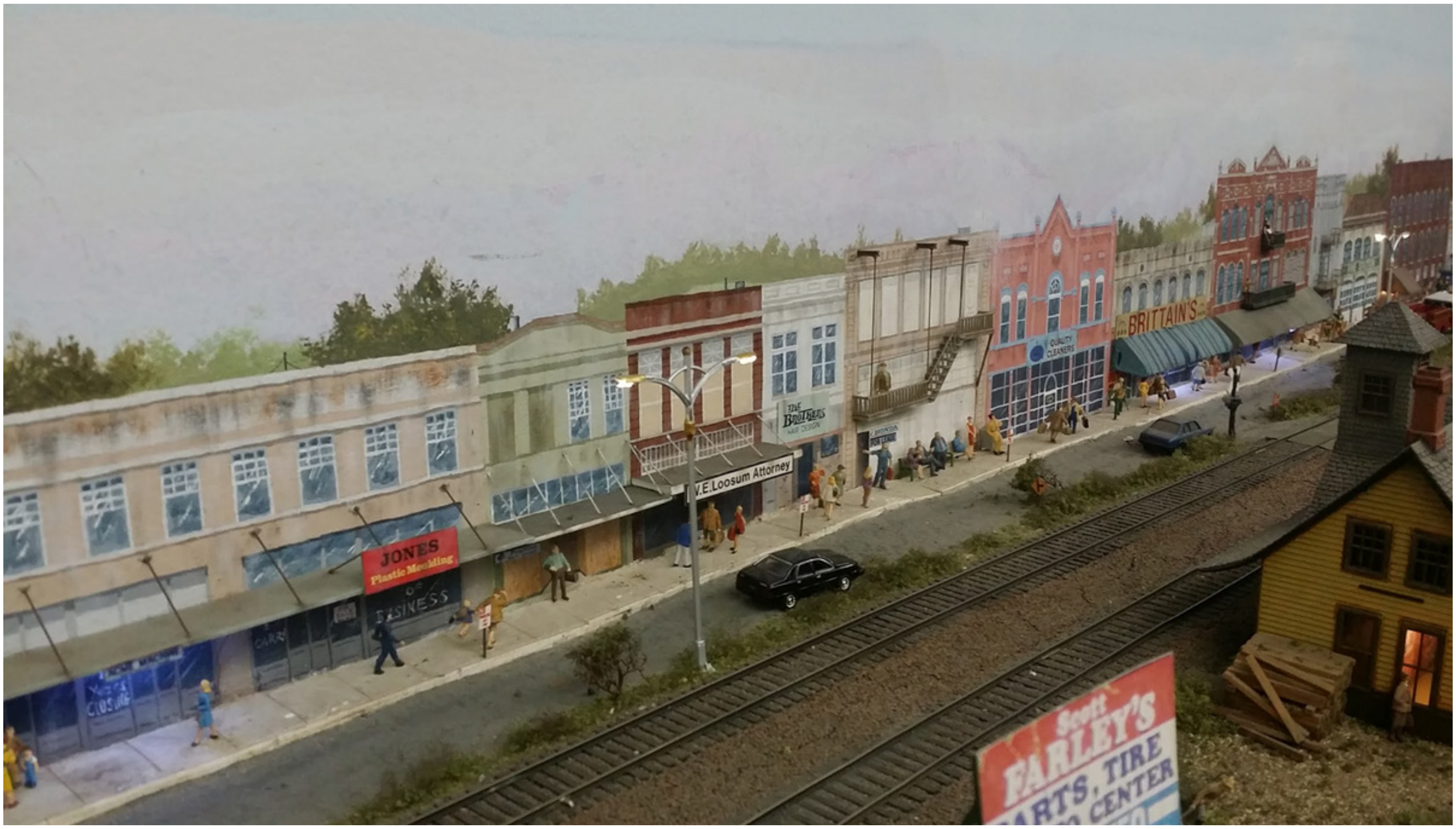
Admission $7

Children 12 and under FREE with adult • Admission includes both days

Sponsored by the Austin Model Railway Society
www.austinrailway.org/trainshow.html

by Speed

WHO'S TRACK GOES THERE?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PARTS, TIRE
CENTER

You tell me who's layout this big photo is from, and I give the first person to email me the correct answer at rrrduino@huntatrophy.com a campfire lighting Arduino next time we meet up!

Of course, the usual fine print applies: Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have a medical condition.

2019 SER Convention
Chattanooga, TN

2019 SER Convention
Chattanooga, TN
Thursday through Sunday
May 30, 2019 - June 2, 2019

Convention Website

The Choo Choo City Rails SER Convention will be held May 30- June 2, 2019. Chattanooga is rich in railroad history. From the Great Locomotive Chase of the Civil War to Glenn Miller's "Chattanooga Choo Choo," railroads have played an important part in its development.

Great clinics are planned with Pelle Søeborg (banquet speaker), Cody Grivno, Stephen Priest, Matt Herman, Lance Mindheim, the owners of ScaleTrains.com, and many others.

Plans are ongoing with several of Chattanooga's major industries for prototype tours including Portland Cement, the TVRM Backshop, VW Auto Loading Terminal, ADM's trans-load facility, Astec Industries, and JIT Steel Services. There will also be home layout tours and operating sessions to choose from.

Thursday, prior to the convention, ScaleTrains.com is sponsoring a trip on the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum's Hiwassee River Rail Excursion. and a catered BBQ lunch at their Benton, TN headquarters. Join Pelle, Cody, Stephen, Matt, Lance and the ScaleTrains.com crew for a great train ride. For more information, pricing, and to register for this event, click here. The Sunday following the convention, join ScaleTrains.com in Dalton, GA at the NS/CSX diamond next to the freight station.

There are world famous attractions such as Rock City, Ruby Falls and the Incline Railway. Ride the trains at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum or view the sights atop Lookout Mountain; the Tennessee Aquarium; ride the Southern Belle Riverboat. Bring the family, come early, stay late and enjoy all that Scenic City has to offer.

- Thursday May 30, ScaleTrains.com will be sponsoring the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum Hiwassee River Rail Excursion with a catered BBQ lunch. Click here for more information.
- Thursday May 30, registration is from 5 PM until 9 PM, operating session.
- Friday May 31, Clinics, operation Sessions, home layout tours, and Prototype/Industrial Tours.
- Saturday June 1, Clinics, home layout tours, Eagle Point Live Steam tour, Tennessee Railroad Museum rides backshop tour, and banquet.
- Sunday, June 2, Home Layout tours, operating sessions, and railfanning at the NS/CSX diamond in Dalton, GA.

Historian's Corner

We Return to Our Roots

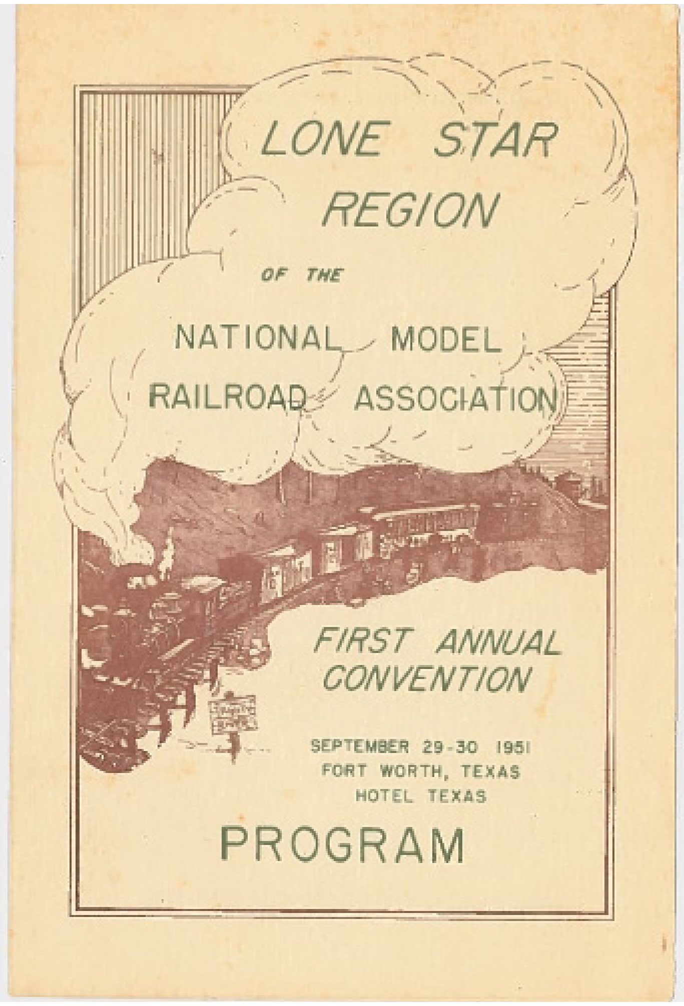
By Bob Barnett, MMR
LSR Historian

This June the Lone Star Region Convention will be held in Frisco, a few miles north of Dallas and a few more miles northeast of Fort Worth. That is fitting as the Lone Star Region was born in north Texas in these two cities. The "Organizational Meeting" was held in Dallas on April 15, 1951 and the very first annual convention was held that fall in Fort Worth. According to an excellent LSR history written in 1984 by then LSR President John Lorrance and contemporary 1950's hobby press, signatures for a petition to the NMRA to organize a region in Texas were gathered by Bobbie and Buddy Hall at Halls Hobby Shop in Dallas. Bill McClanahan of Dallas then carried the petition to the 1950 NMRA Convention.

The motion passed and the Dallas area model railroaders wasted no time in setting up an organizational meeting held in April 1951 at the Baker Hotel in Dallas. To those not familiar with Dallas in the fifties the Baker and Adolophus Hotels were THE luxury hotels in Downtown Dallas, so this was a pretty upscale affair. The organization appointed temporary officers and a committee to draft a constitution to set up the frame work for the organization we now know as the NMRA Lone Star Region.

The first official convention of the Lone Star Region was held September 29th and 30th in Fort Worth at the Hotel Texas. Registration began at 8:30 am on Saturday and the day included two clinics, a chartered bus tour of Fort Worth model railroads and concluded with a banquet at 7:30PM. Sunday began with a tour of the Texas & Pacific Passenger Station, the hump yard at Lancaster Yard, the T&P roundhouse and shops, and yard control tower. (Try getting a tour like this now for any railfan group.) Two additional clinics were scheduled for Sunday afternoon. So, the full convention ran from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon about 5:00. That's quite a bit shorter that recent LSR Conventions.

We look forward to another great convention in the Dallas-Fort Worth area as we return to the place where the LSR began.

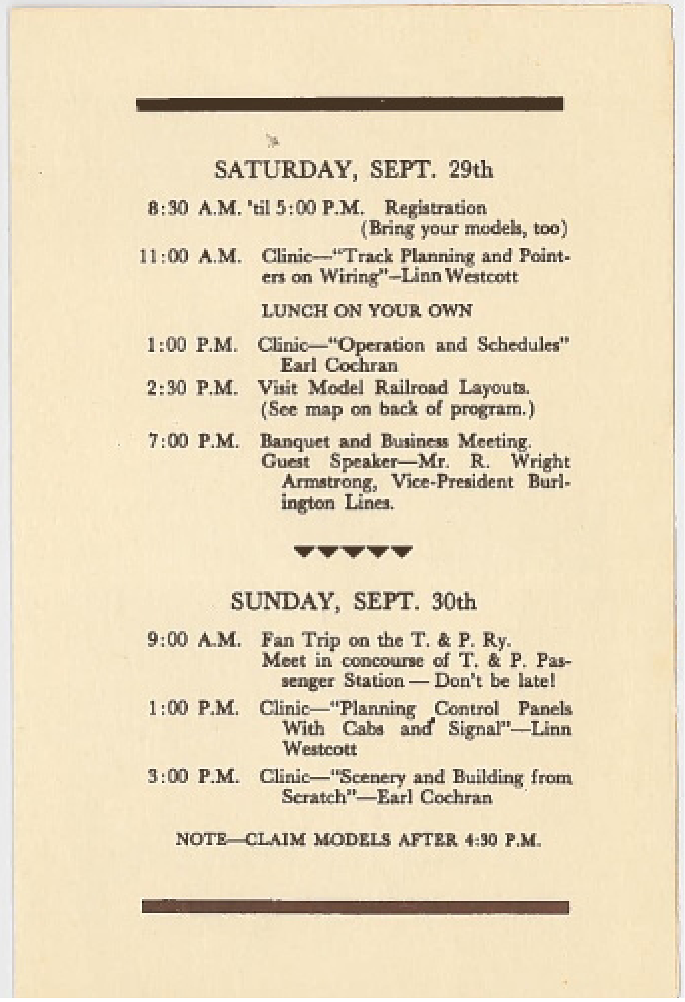


LONE STAR
REGION
OF THE
NATIONAL MODEL
RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

FIRST ANNUAL
CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 29-30 1951
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
HOTEL TEXAS

PROGRAM



SATURDAY, SEPT. 29th

8:30 A.M. 'til 5:00 P.M. Registration (Bring your models, too)

11:00 A.M. Clinic—"Track Planning and Pointers on Wiring"—Linn Westcott

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 P.M. Clinic—"Operation and Schedules" Earl Cochran

2:30 P.M. Visit Model Railroad Layouts. (See map on back of program.)

7:00 P.M. Banquet and Business Meeting. Guest Speaker—Mr. R. Wright Armstrong, Vice-President Burlington Lines.

▼▼▼▼▼

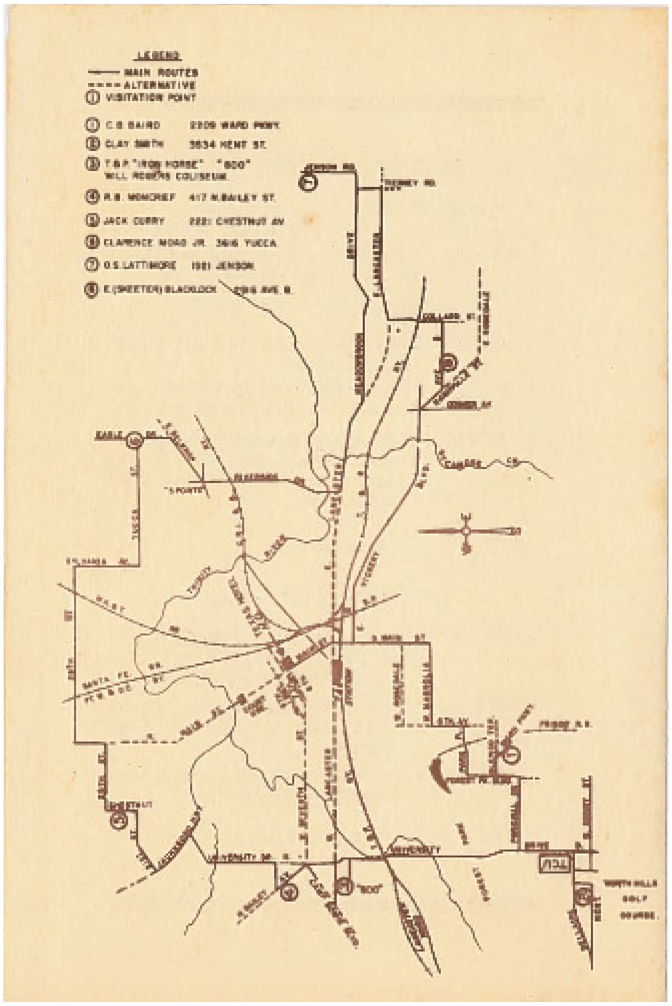
SUNDAY, SEPT. 30th

9:00 A.M. Fan Trip on the T. & P. Ry. Meet in concourse of T. & P. Passenger Station — Don't be late!

1:00 P.M. Clinic—"Planning Control Panels With Cabs and Signal"—Linn Westcott

3:00 P.M. Clinic—"Scenery and Building from Scratch"—Earl Cochran

NOTE—CLAIM MODELS AFTER 4:30 P.M.


LEGEND
MAIN ROUTES
ALTERNATIVE
① VISITATION POINT
① C.B. BAIRD 2209 WARD PKWY.
② CLAY SMITH 3834 KENT ST.
③ T&P "IRON HORSE" "800" WILL ROGERS COLISEUM
④ R.B. MONCRIEF 417 N.BAILEY ST.
⑤ JACK CURRY 2221 CHESTNUT AV
⑥ CLARENCE MOAD JR. 3616 YUCCA
⑦ O.S.LATTIMORE 1981 JENSON
⑧ E.(SKEETER) BLACKLOCK 2916 AVE. B.
JENSON RD.
"800"
UNIVERSITY DR.
FRISCO R.R.
T.C.U.
NORTH HILLS GOLF COURSE

On the Shoulders of Giants

In Summary

By Richard Kamm

SUE LINE

I hope you have had some degree of inspiration as I have shared the "giants" who have inspired me. Each of these individuals has been, in their own way, special to me and have helped me to move forward in the hobby and to improve the Sue Line Railroad.

Some of these individuals have provided direct, "hands on" contact. Others I have never met but, through their sharing, have been inspiring to me.

I suggest that each of you reflect on the "giants" who have been in your life and in turn I challenge you to be an inspiration or "giant" for others.

I once heard that there are two ways to be immortal- to be a parent or to be a teacher. This world needs teachers,

people who take the time and effort to help and inspire others. You can be one of those people.

Consider taking the time to show others how you do what you do. I realize in our busy world this may be difficult to do, but it is well worth the effort. Often, we will not even realize who we have inspired. Writing articles, even brief ones, can be inspirational. Give clinics. They are good for others and good for you.

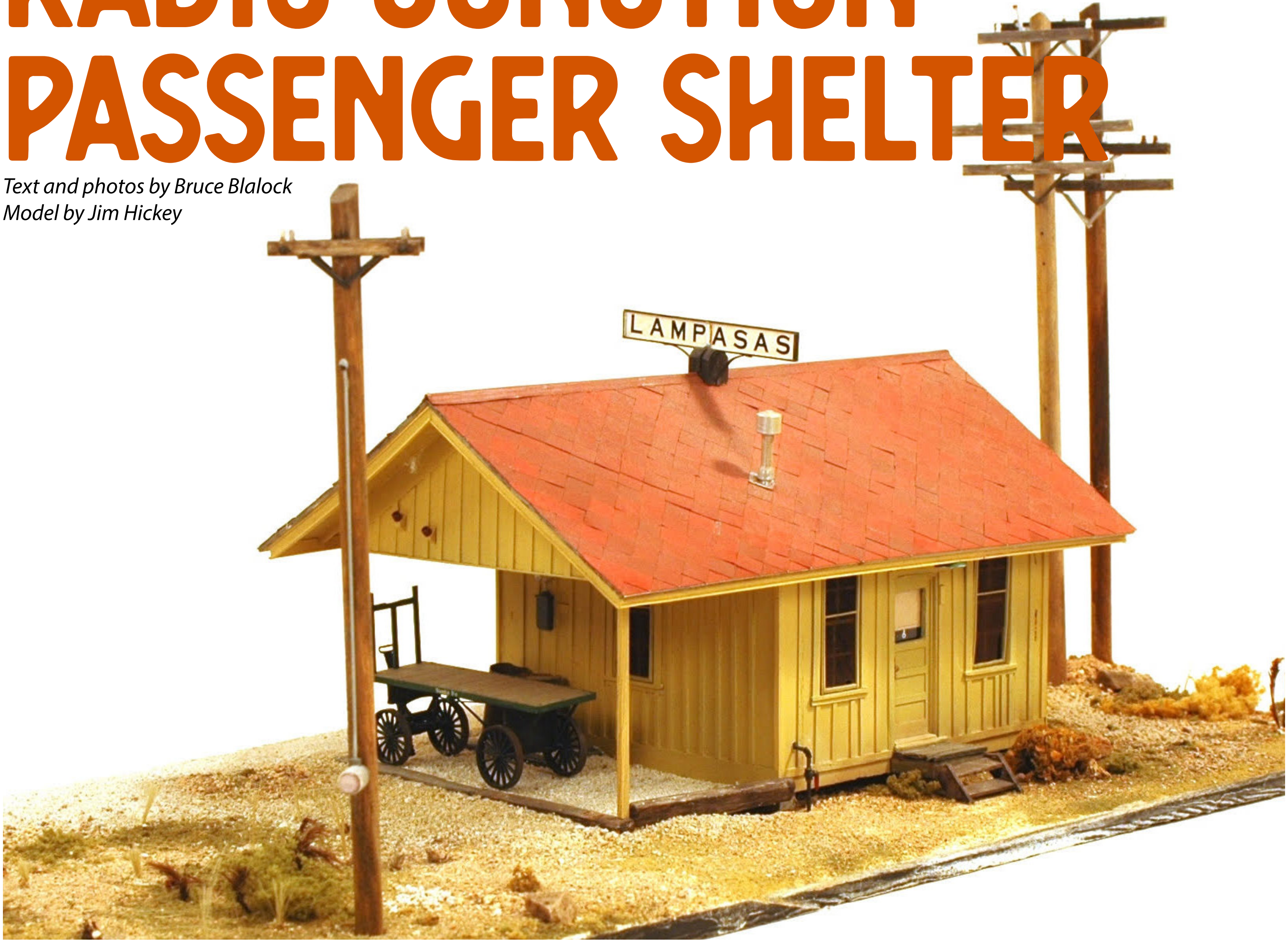
Many times, I have seen a project where the author kept back one "secret" ingredient that made their project work. Don't be one of those people. Give these "secrets" freely to others so that they may be successful in their model railroading project.

In short, let someone else think that it would be almost impossible to find a better friend in the hobby than you and that they are extremely lucky to have you as one of their "giants."

The obstacles that life has presented me lately have become opportunities to share with the next generation. Thanks Gil for reminding us that we always have something to contribute. **ML**

RADIO JUNCTION PASSENGER SHELTER

Text and photos by Bruce Blalock
Model by Jim Hickey



Until I went off to Texas Tech in Lubbock, I lived in Burnet, Texas. Lampasas was 22 miles north of Burnet and the Santa Fe grazed the North side of town. There was a wye where the line went into town, named Radio Junction, which had a passenger shelter. In older days, the passenger trains would actually go to the Lampasas station, then go back out to the main line.

By the 1960s it was a flag stop for the California Special, Trains 75 and 76. The few times that I rode westbound to Lubbock, the nighttime drill was: point the auto east and when you saw the locomotive headlight, flash the car lights and the engineer would stop.

Then you would board, pay the conductor and wake up in Brownwood where four passenger trains met, switched and go on their way. You would then wake up around Slaton to the scent of Santa Fe's special blend of Chase & Sanborn coffee with ham and eggs cooked over charcoal. Arrival time in Lubbock was 0715 with westward train departure at 0730. The arrival time meant one could make it to an 0800 class.

At Brownwood, the California Special, 75 and 76 interacted with trains 77 and 78, Dallas-Fort Worth-Brownwood-San Angelo. They interchanged cars and units in the wee hours. No. 75 also picked up a T&P mail car at Sweetwater and set it out at Lubbock. Also 75 and 76 connected at Lubbock with trains 93 and 94, Lubbock to Amarillo. It was a good time to see Texas passenger trains.

This wonderful model of the Radio Junction passenger shelter by Jim Hickey in O Scale is complete in every way, right down to the schedule on the train bulletin. It also has the replacement telephone pole added just like it was on his visit with the fresh dirt and all. ML

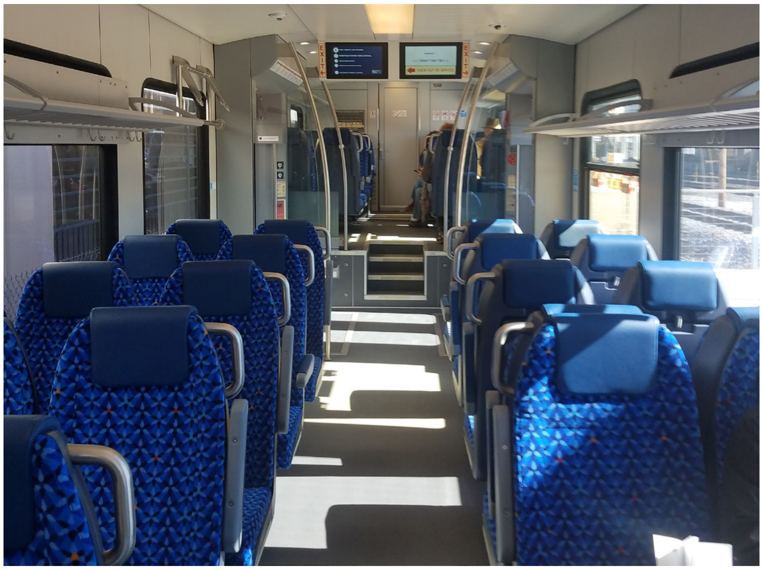
LAMPASAS

A Ride on TEXRail

By John Garfield
photos by Ken Kaiser

TEXRail
TEXRail

TEXRail



Here are some photos of the new TEXRail opened n January between Fort Worth and the DFW Airport.

TEXRail, the new commuter line between Fort Worth and the DFW Airport opened in January with free rides throughout the month. Ridership was high and often crowded on weekends. Except for a short time in the middle of the night for freight delivery on the line, rides are frequent, quiet and very comfortable. Frank Treadway, Kevin Kaiser, and Tom Stamey joined me for one of the free rides to try it out. Plans call for expansion to the Hospital District soon and on south to the old Rock Island line and then hopefully on south after that. Try it sometime. Fares are only $2.50 each way. ML

TRINITY METRO
TEXRail

EMERGENCY ACCESS
EMERGENCY WINDOW REMOVAL
TRINITY RAILWAY EXPRESS

MINUTES OF THE LONE STAR REGION BOARD MEETING

Frisco, Texas – January 19, 2019

President Chuck Lind called the Annual Board meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Roll call

All of the officers, directors and committee chairpersons were present except:

Voting Board Members:

Position	Elected Rep	Proxy
Advisor	Steve Barkley	Ray Byer
Division 5	Dave Lamberts	Ray Byer
Division 6	Don Winn	Ray Byer
Division 8	Jim Lemmond	Ray Byer
At Large	Riley Triggs	Ray Byer

Non-voting Board Members:

Publication – Riley Triggs
Contest – Loren Neufeld
Events – Bill Dryden
Photography – Dave Lamberts
Non-Rail – Virginia Freitag

Guests in attendance:

Dennis Rice
Maureen Mason

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Donna Orr provided a motion and Ray Byerr seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as published the Minutes of the June 27, 2018 Annual Board of Directors meeting published in the 2018 Summer issue of The Marker Lamp - designated as 2019-01-19 LSR Motion 1 passed.

Officers Reports

President Chuck Lind

Writing this as 2018 winds down. As you know it has been a roller coaster of a year but life goes on and things are returning to normal.

The LSR remains stable and one of the best regions in the NMRA. I hear from other presidents about the problems they are having which mostly have to do with convention attendance and money problems. I just answered an email from another region with question on if they should provide their newsletter on in a digital version, something we had to address many years ago to keep us financially sound. I choice that even myself, a printer that likes ink on paper, has enjoyed. Not being limited to 24 pages has made out newsletter not only more interesting, but has given us color, something that was cost prohibited due to printing cost.

Marc has been working on trying to get someone to host a convention in 2021. We need someone to step up to the plate and discuss this with Marc. We will be in the Dallas area in 2019 and then Houston in 2021. I get the best deals on hotels you need to be 2-3 years out. We don't want to go back to waiting until the June Board meeting to find out where the next year's convention will be.

Donna has been working very hard to give us a quality convention in 2019. She is trying some new (old) ideas. The convention has been shortened and will start Thursday evening instead of Wednesday, which was how it was done many years ago. The main reason people come to the convention according to a survey after the Austin convention is clinics. The desire to learn is still the motivator. With that in mind clinics for the 2019 convention have many new folks doing clinics including a couple of and NMRA member outside the region that just enjoys doing clinics and does it for no cost to us to do them. The biggest difference for this convention will be no banquet meal, this is something new and hopefully if will be successful. After an afternoon at the Frisco Railroad Museum you will receive information on restaurants in the area, after dining at the restaurant of your choice we will meet back at the hotel for desert and the awards. Hopefully this will be successful since the cost for hotel meals to a small group like ours are getting out of control.

I am hopping that we have a good turnout at the Mid-year Board meeting as we make plans for the direction our Region will be taking over the next year. Elections are upon us so be sure and vote!.

Vice-President Ray Byer

No report.

Treasurer Gert Muller

We still have money in the Delattre Fund for new members who served or are serving in our defense forces. We would like Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 to make use of this, please.

There has been some questions about the accounting shown below. The LSR is holding money in the two separate funds (Bob Clarke and Delattre) and we also keep money for divisions that do not receive enough rebate money to keep a bank account open. So instead of showing five sets of books, you might find that the money that is not shown in income or disbursement, is in the change in these funds or "liabilities". I will change how we show this and certainly want people to ask more questions!

Speed.

Third Fiscal Quarter of 2018/2019 :

Beginning Balances (4/1/2018)	
LSR Unrestricted Accounts	$38,844.05
Beginning Total LSR Net Worth	$38,844.05
Bob Clarke Award	$ 528.86
Division 2 and 7 Rebates	$ 312.50
Delattre Fund	$ 1,200.00
Bank Saldo	$40,885.41
LSR Proceeds	
NMRA Rebate	$ 885.00
Total Proceeds	$ 885.00
LSR Disbursements	
Election Printing and Mail	$ 90.96
Convention Non-rail Activities	$ 500.00
Contest Room	$ 239.21
Audio Visual Expenses	$ 61.70
Banking Costs	$ 21.00
Signs and Printing for shows	$ 80.00
Total Disbursements	$ 992.87
Net Proceeds-Disbursements	$ -107.87
Ending Balances (10/30/2018)	
LSR Unrestricted Accounts Total	$38,736.18
Total LSR Net Worth	$38,736.18
Bob Clarke Award	$ 528.86
Division 2 and 7 Rebates	$ 312.50
Delattre Fund	$ 1.200.00
Bank Salso	$40,777.54

Secretary Jeff Palmer

Since our June 13, 2018 BOD meeting, the LSR Secretary worked with the Nomination Chair, Blake Bogs, to hold the 2019 LSR Officers election. This is an ongoing process which begins shortly after the Annual BOD Meeting. The first phase of the process is to identify the candidates, and obtain their profile. This phase just closed on December 1, 2018. The second phase is to turn all of the profiles over to the webchair and the building of the election website - https://geekwithtrains.com which is underway now.

The Secretary has provided the LSR President with the "recertification" information for the NMRA insurance.

Currently the secretary is trying to pull together the various reports from the other LSR Officers and Chairs in preparation of the January 19, 2019 BOD meeting in

Frisco. The cooperation of the officers and chairs would be greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to the 2019 convention. Reviewing the 2019 website, I'm really looking forward to a number of clinics, and touring some of the fantastic layouts -http://2019texasspecial.com. I really recommend "Speed's" Arduino clinics – limited number of attendees, so get your registration in early.

As covered in the Webchair Report, the LSR Website continues to be stable. I would also like to thank Chris Atkins for allowing the LSR to use the https://geekwithtrains.com website to hold our elections.

One last note, please remember in your reporting that education is our prime directive and to hi-lite it where possible in your reporting.

Advisor Steve Barkley

No Report

Directors Reports

Division 1 Director Mike Mackey reported that:

Division 1 has shown that the momentum that started in 2017, has continued throughout 2018, thanks to a fantastic leadership team that helps make my job easy! Attendance continues to be on an upward trend and currently we are averaging around 40 members per meeting. With monthly meetings hosting clinics on topics from local railroad history to castings and making molds, members are learning skills and techniques that are helping them become better and better. Several Division 1 members walked away with well-deserved awards and honors at this year's regional convention.

Members are doing more and more to promote our organization as well. More members than ever volunteered to help with the NMRA booth and clinics at the fall train show.

We invite everyone to visit our division website, www.cowcatcherdivision.org, to keep up with our activities, both past and future. We've already completed our complete meeting and education schedule for 2019. Come join us on the second Saturday of every month for fun and fellowship!

Division 2 Director Ken Mason reported:

Since my last report for the Summer Marker Lamp of 2018, the Bayou Division has had a few events and is planning a few events for the future.

The Bayou Division Modular layout is up and running with 4 corners and 2 straight modules so far. We have at least 3 more straights in the works and plan to add a small yard to be able to switch out trains that are being run without having to handle them. The modular layout was on display for the first time at the New Orleans Historic Train Garden back on October 7th for the dedication of the new wing of the train gardens building that was made possible by a donation from Lori Demonsabert, the executrix of her cousin's Merritt Becker's extensive model train collection. All trains run on the modular layout were from Mr. Becker's HO scale collection. The layout was also run at the Ponchatoula Train show and received many nice comments. Hopefully with more time to work on it we will have more detailed scenery coming soon.

The Crescent City Model Railroad Club in Metairie is hosting a number of open house dates for the holiday season. We hope for a good visitor turnout again. See the club website or Facebook page for the flyer with all the dates and times.

The Mid-South Club in Baton Rouge recently had a successful open house at the end of October and continues to host operating sessions on a regular basis.

The Louisiana Train Collectors Association once again hosted the Ponchatoula Train Show on November 3rd and was a great success. This little train show really seems to be growing over the past few years with more participation by local model railroad clubs and it is attracting more operating layouts. Clay Fourrier of the TCA and Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroaders does a great job running and promoting this show.

As mentioned above, the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroaders had a large presence at the TCA show and continue to host open house shows at their location in Jackson, Louisiana on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month.

The Lake Area Model Railroaders in Lake Charles recently had a few members visit the Mid-South for one of their operating sessions.

What could be the most exciting news for the spring of 2019 will be a weekend of operating sessions in Louisiana, mostly taking place in Division 2? It is scheduled to take place the weekend following Mardi Gras on Thursday March 7- Sunday March 10. It is being called Bayou Rail and will be similar to the old Louisiana Rail Run. Dr. Richard Kamm will host a session on Thursday March 7, Jim Lofland will host on Friday March 8, The CCMRC will host on Saturday March 9 followed by a group dinner in the Metairie area. Finally on Sunday we will travel back to Baton Rouge for a session at the Mid-South club. More detail will be sent out soon so that interested parties and get their reservations in ASAP.

Division 3 Director Donna Orr reported that:

Here we are at the end of the year and the beginning of a new one. WE started off our October meeting by adding a new MMR to the Division. Jeff Palmer received his MMR certificate.

We have had our monthly meetings in 2018 and in October and November we finished the last two months of the Freight House Project. Each month was a different educational project that helped put together the final building. From scratch building the walls, reinforcement of the building, painting, adding doors and windows, building the roof and covering it to the completed Freight house building. This project was done in scales from n through O. In January, each of those that built a Freight House and want to participate, can bring their completed project for a popular vote contest. So we will see what additions have been made to get that popular vote 1st place.

At the same time, those that were not interested in the freight house were able to build Caspian trees. this project was started to help out another group with their display that needed a thousand trees.

December we had our Christmas gathering, dubbed as our socialization clinic, with the usual great food and Chinese/white elephant gift exchange. Just a Verry Merry Christmas Party of the old fashion kind.

Each month we have our DVD chair, Robert Secrest, take care of our DVD libray, giving the list of the lastest additions. In this Library of DVD's a member can borrow the dvd's for use for the month and then bring them back the following month for someone else to use.

Our Membership/Mentorship chair, Dennis Rice, is also continuing with our mentorship program, which is going well.

Our clinic Chair, Thomas Stephens, has many more monthly educational clinics scheduled for next years meetings.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and started out with a Happy New Year.

Division 4 Director Bob Thiele reported:

Since the regional convention, Division four has gathered three times to share knowledge, projects completed or in work and companionship. We have meet in July, September and November. I have been surprised by the number of show and tell projects that have been brought in. Lately we have had to clear tables to make room for the items.

The clinics and mini clinics that have been presented were excellent. Jerry Wilson, MMR, presented a clinic on how to construct switch and diamond frogs which are electrical isolated. Dave Barrett conducted the first part of making trees from small gauge wire. This was a hands-on clinic with all members constructing a tree to take home. Part two will be held in January. The division has been conducting several mini clinics highlighting new ideas and techniques that the members have been using.

When it comes to advancing the exposure of the hobby the division has several fronts that we are working on. Members of the division have formed a modular group with the purpose of exposing the public to the hobby. The group invites and brings the public to their monthly gathering and have them operate and help construct projects that will go on the individual modules. The module group has set up at the Taylor Tx. Train show and will be setting up in December at the Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin. On Friday the children from the school and facility will visit the layout. On Saturday after breakfast with Santa the layout will be open to the public. We have also invited and brought individuals and families to the division meetings and shown them the hospitality of model railroading.

Division 5 Director Dave Lamberts reported:

The membership of Division Five is not known for their construction exuberance. However, the recent introduction of tabletop HO scale modules has peaked some interest. As the name implies, the module does not require legs, but fits on any flat table top. I think that the N-scalers originally came up with this idea and the HO group sort of copied the concept. Nevertheless, we now have over a dozen modules in our "collection" which is good for our club. I have the details of the specs for such modules if anyone is interested, let me know and I can snail mail them to you.

Division 6 Don Winn reported:

For the second half of 2018, we continued the activities that were initiated earlier in the year. The South Texas Railroad Socials continued to enjoy a high attendance rate. The socials include a variety of clinics, Show and Tell, and a home layout tour. We also continued with Make-n-Take clinics which appeal to a smaller group of modelers. Overall, it represents a great increase in activities in the division, compared to the most recent years.

We also nominated a young man for the LSR Youth Award.

Education Report

The new South Texas Railroad Socials continued with a second event on June 30th, with over 40 in attendance. The program included a slide show of "Railroads Around San Antonio", followed by a demonstrating of painting (yes, painting, not just weathering) with Pan Pastels.

At the NMRA national convention in Kansas City in August, one of our distinguished division MMRs, John Lowrance, presented 3 clinics which were all well-attended.

At the South Texas Railroad Social in September we had a clinic on designing a model railroad from ground up, plus a railfan presentation on hiking in a canyon to see a bridge, and a railroad museum update.

In November, the Make and Take clinic was making a MOW shed from a boxcar, taking advantage of the free boxcar program from the NMRA. To the shell, we added the roofwalk, a man door and door frame and structure to support the boxcar. We also stained and glued ties to form an equipment deck and steps.

We wrapped up the year with another South Texas Railroad social at new venue. Meeting at a local restaurant allowed for some fellowship before the program, while also providing a no-cost meeting room for the program. The featured clinic was an introduction to constructing structures from paper kits. The meeting concluded with a slide show of layouts open in the Houston area over the prior month.

Division 7 Director Don Kimmell reported:

Division Seven (7) membership has held steady over the previous six months. We have not had any division-wide meetings since last summer. In the past, division membership would gather at one of our "local" train shows and compare notes, etc. Unfortunately, the lack of any events in this area, has prevented our "informal" gatherings.

Had one Boy Scout presentation, in Junction City, LA/AR, it straddles the state/parish lines in North-Central Louisiana, just northwest of Rum Center.

A number of division members manned a daylong educational/Operation Lifesaver booth at a number of local civic events throughout East Texas and North Louisiana, these included: a state (LA) sponsored Transportation Conference; the Minden Historical Society's Heritage Event; and "Bonnie and Clyde Days" in Arcadia.

Division 8 Director Jim Lemmond reported:

Division 8 Monthly Clinics:

Division 8 presented the following model railroad related clinics at Bayland Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston:

March 17, 2018 - Weathering with Pan Pastels - Loren Neufeld, MMR
April 14, 2018 - Tuning Locomotives - Mark Couvillion
May 12, 2018 - Basic DCC Programming - Ray Byer
July 14, 2018 - Make and Take Building Session 1 – Chuck Lind, MMR
August 11, 2018 - Make and Take Building Session 2 – Loren Neufeld, MMR
September 8, 2018 - Backdrops for your Layout – Denny McGongle
October 13, 2018 - LEDs for Model Railroaders – Tuffy Henderson
December 8, 2018 – Building a Turnout with "Fast Tracks" – Ray Byer

Division 8 Picnic:

The annual Division 8 meeting and picnic was held on Saturday, September 29, 2018, at Zube Park. In spite of the early rain, the running of trains and serving of the hot dogs all ran to perfection. Ray Byer, President of Division 8, performed the chef's role in the serving of the hot dogs. All attending had a great time as guests of the Houston Live Steamers Club.

Division 8 Train Clubs:

Houston Area Live Steamers Club:
The Houston Area Live Steamers is devoted to live steam modeling: from locomotives, to stationary engines, to tractors and boats, with a particular emphasis on model trains large enough to ride. Our members own engines and trains in 1", 1-1/2", 2-1/2" and 3" scales and our dual gauge track serves both 4-3/4" and 7-1/2" gauges. A Gauge One track has been in operation since April 26, 2003 and is one of the largest Gauge One tracks in the area. https://hals.org/
Petticoat Junction: from Blake Bogs
Petticoat Junction is a local fellowship group meeting at Valley Ranch BBQ the first Friday of every month at 6:00 PM. Originally formed in 2004 by Bill Wilson, this club offers monthly clinics, an annual open house, and videos before the clinic. For more information and reminders, contact us at petticoatjunctionrr@gmail.com

San Jacinto Model Railroad Club:

Meetings are the first Tuesday of January through November, except in July when the first Tuesday falls on the July 4th holiday, then the meeting will be the 2nd Tuesday, at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet. Meeting time is 7 to 9 pm. Visitors are always welcome! The monthly programs consist of "how to do" clinics, slide shows and discussion on railroading. The San Jacinto Model Railroad Club sponsors the annual Greater Houston Area Model Train Show as well as the Fall Model Railroad Layout Tour. All scales, all gauges are welcome! http://sanjacmodeltrains.org/

Greater Houston Train Show:

The 2019 Greater Houston Train Show will be on Saturday, February 16th, 2019. See the 2019 flyer with all of the details. http://sanjacmodeltrains.org/resources/2019-Public-Flyer-MAP.PDF
Please check back as we get closer for the clinic schedule and further information.

Education:

James S. Hogg IB Magnet Middle School, Houston Independent School District, with support from LSR Division 8 and the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club has formed the Hogg Middle School Model Railroad Club. The club director and sponsor is NMRA and San Jacinto Model Railroad Club member, JayC Williams.
JayC writes, "The main goal of the Hogg Model Railroad Club is to create thoughtful students with an eye for detail, an interest in problem solving, a creative mind that can form a cohesive vision, and a willingness to do the work that makes their vision come alive. Students achieve these goals by learning about real railroads both present and past, forming an idea of how to recreate those railroads in miniature, and then taking the time to learn those skills necessary to make that recreation a reality. We also hope to build a love for railroads and support students in the development of a life-long hobby. Through the structure of the club, there is room for students who wish to begin a model railroad of their own to do such in our group, and retain their creation for their own enjoyment."

JayC further states, "Our club is a collection of students I sponsor who build, maintain, and operate an HO scale modular model railroad. In order to make this a viable system students have to learn how to build model rail cars, keep model locomotives functioning, create realistic scenery, and build scale buildings so the model railroad begins to look realistic. This is an ongoing project, and each student no matter their skill level or ability has a place to contribute.

Division 8 has provided a quantity of box car shells donated by the NMRA National Office. The San Jacinto Model Railroad has provided some monetary support to help start the club.

National Narrow Gauge Convention:

Division 8 member and LSR President was an award winner at the NNGC 2018. He received the following awards:

1st place off-line diorama
1st place in geared steam
3rd place in special equipment

Lone Star Convention:

The 2020 LSR Convention is in the planning stages by Bob Barnett, member of the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club. The current plans are to hold the LSR Convention in conjunction with the Greater Houston Train Show in February, 2020.

Annual Houston Area Layout Tour 2018:

The annual tour of layouts in the Houston area began on October 27th, and ran through December 2nd. The tour operates on each weekend of October through December at both individual and club layouts. The layouts are located in College Station to Beaumont and the Houston metropolitan area. All tours are free of charge.

Publication:

In October, 2018, Kalmbach Publications, "2019 Great Model Railroads" published an article on the Gold Creek Timber Company On30 layout built by Loren Neufeld, MMR and Jim Lemmond. The photos were by Division 8 member, Bob Were.

Director-At-Large Marc LaChey reported:

Procrastination is what happens when you can't think of anything meaningful to say in a report to the Board. Since the LSR Convention back in June, I did not travel to the National Narrow Gauge convention for the first time in 10 years. And as a result of my wife and I having season tickets to Baylor football, I've missed the last several Division 3 meetings. But then along came the December 2018 issue of the NMRA Magazine.

Frankly, the issue sat on my desk unopened and unread for several weeks. None of the teasers on front cover captured my interest. But then I heard through the grapevine that my friend, Jeff Palmer had earned his Master Model Railroader award. So I thought I should open the magazine and read Jeff's write up about the MMR.

Now, I will admit to not looking forward to reading another MMR write up which opens with some version of "my interest in model railroading started when I was a child and received a Lionel train set one Christmas". Jeff's write up was refreshing, affirming and delivered a message that I firmly believe represents the core value of the NMRA. To quote Larry Swigert, "It's not about the trains, it's about the people!"

Now, I can sit in my train room working on a model listening to a John Wayne movie play background noise for hours. But what I really look forward to is a get together with members of our Narrow Gauge group. I look forward to the kidding and being kidded that comes with being a part of the group. I appreciate having guys to help me think of solutions to a modeling problems when I am stuck or fearful of failure. And it is not just modeling failures that are shared. Our group provides a place where we can also share life.
So, if you are not a part of a group of model railroaders, find one. If you haven't started working on the Achievement Program to earn your MMR, it is a great means by which to meet others and learn from them. And if you are not active in your local Division, consider attending the next local meeting and getting involved. You might just meet some folks where you can debate important topics such as the best way to clean track, epoxy versus super glue, or the merits of one DCC manufacturer versus another. And in doing so, you might just make some life-long friends.

Director-At-Large Blake Bogs reported:

It has been a successful six months for my Director at Large Position.
Marker Lamp- My Director at Large/nomination update was sent in for latest issue
Nomination- See report. We now have the following candidates for the next election:
President- Chuck Lind
Secretary- Jeff Palmer
Division 1- Mike Mackey
Division 3- Donna Orr
Division 5- David Lamberts
Division 7- Don Kimmell
There are no contested races.
Petticoat Junction Clinic's
July- Denny McGonigle- The Copper River & Northwestern Railroad
August- Edward Flaugher- Painting Brass Locomotive
September– All Points North- History and Overview of the All Points North Layout
October- Barry Bogs- 60 years of trains/30 years of the Colorado and Western
November- Open House- Had an estimated 25 people come through and view models
My layout was open for the San Jacinto Layout Tour in November. We had around 120 people visit

Director-At-Large Riley Triggs reported:

The CenTex Division's 100% NMRA club, the Austin Model Railway Society (AMRS), is continuing its mission to educate the public about railroad activities in general and specifically the history of the railroads in around Central Texas. We have been and will continue to display monthly in 2019 at Lifeworks Austin, a non-profit that is a fearless advocate for youth and families seeking their path to self-sufficiency. We have several casual visitors during these events, and our plans are to provide organized opportunities for engagement with youth in their programs to learn about model and prototype railroading, and to become involve in a constructive hobby as part of their journey towards a better life.

The Austin Area Train Show will be in Taylor, Tx again the first weekend in May in coordination with Taylor's Blackland Prairie Days, and the modular AMRS layout will be displayed and operated for the public. Club and CenTex Division members also support the volunteer efforts for putting on the show, which will be in its third year in Taylor.

The search for more members and a more permanent home is under way to solidify the club and its activities. The goal is for the club to be a public outreach and education component supporting the efforts of the CenTex Division and LSR. Many of the club members are active in all the activities in the area.

Department Reports

Achievement Chair Duane Richardson reported:

Here is a list of all AP awards given since the LSR Convention:

James Williams – Civil, Electrical and Golden Spike
Russell Dametz – Chief Dispatcher
Peter Leach – Structures
Tom Greco – Cars
Jeff Palmer – Chief Dispatcher
John Garfield – Golden Spike
James Kelly – Electrical, Golden Spike
Michael Ross – Civil
Ezequiel Duran – Golden Spike
Fred Tucker – Golden Spike

As a special note, Jeff Palmer's Chief Dispatcher gave him his 7th certificate and made him Master Model Railroader #620.

Turns out it's a good thing the report I tried to send on Thursday didn't go out. Fred Tucker just gave me his paperwork yesterday.

Contest Chair Loren Neufeld reported:

Convention Chair Marc LaChey reported:

Wanted-a Division or other committed to host the 2021 Lone Star Region Convention. That's right folks, as of this report, we have yet to receive any bids or even inquiries about hosting the 2021 Convention.

The good news is that Division 1&3 are hosting the 2019 Convention in Frisco, Texas. Division 8 will host the 2020 convention. But where do we go for our annual convention after that?
I have had conversations with the directors of Division 2 and 6. Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, these directors are not comfortable with hosting the 2020 convention.

As I focus on future events, I would be remiss in not recognizing the outstanding 2018 convention hosted by Division 4. The organizers brought in a number of outstanding clinicians, include two from out of the area. I particularly enjoyed those clinics, as the material was new and fresh. Trevor Marshall's speech at the award's banquet was thought provoking. And on a personal note, I finally got up the courage to do the paperwork and bring some models to the contest room. I was pleased to have all three of my entries merit.

But, back to the beginning. Without new and fresh host committees, we will wear out those who have served of late. So think about it. Are you willing to step up?

Historian Chair Bob Barnett reports:

In June 2018 I picked up the Lone Star Region Archives including the bound volumes of Marker Lamps, note books containing meeting minutes, and a notebook containing news clippings and photos from various LSR activities from David Long, Jim Long's son.

I have since gone through the boxes and collection and separated into various classes of historic data. These include:

1. Notebooks containing bound volumes of the Marker Lamp from Volume 1 No 1 from 1951 up to the time the Region went digital and began posting the Marker Lamp online.
2. Box containing the Region's collection of HO collector series commemorative cars. As far as I can tell we have one of each car the Region issued from approximately 1987 until the early 2000's.
3. A box containing the N-scale collector series commemorative cars. I am unsure if we have a full collection of the N-scale cars and could use the help of an N-Scale collector that knows what cars were produced.
4. Wood plaques containing brass name plates for all Lone Star Region President up through the election of current president Chuck Lind.
5. A Wood plaque containing the names of all LSR members who have received a Master Model Railroader certificate up until 2017.
6. A box of news clippings and photos from LSR activities over the last 60 plus years.

I have discussed with Riley the potential for preparing a series of short articles on the founding and history of the Lone Star Regions. I fully plan to have a short article regarding the founding of the Region (in Dallas and Fort Worth) before the upcoming D-FW sponsored convention in Frisco.

Nominating Chair Blake Bogs reported:

Election will take place March 1,2019- March 31, 2019
Please remind your division to vote!
Candidates in the Upcoming Election:
President- Chuck Lind
Secretary- Jeff Palmer
Division 1- Mike Mackey
Division 3- Donna Orr
Division 5- David Lamberts
Division 7- Don Kimmell

Non-Rail Virginia Feritag not present – No Report.

Publications Chair Riley Triggs reported:

Report of year's activities
With Summer and Fall 2018 issues published, we should be back on regular publishing schedule for 2019.

The emphasis continues to be on the regular column contributors providing a strong base of material. Gert "Speed" Muller, Blake Bogs, Peter Kazmir and Duane Richardson are doing a tremendous job at producing interesting, informative and educational material for our membership.

I would like to bring focus on the rest of the chair and directors in the region who have not been submitting reports. Each position should have something to say about their activities, the hobby, or the way they are engaging with the model railroading community as an elected or appointed member in support of the LSR's mission.

Metrics
Jeff Palmer has provided some metrics for the consumption of the Marker Lamp. He indicates that 65% of 1100 members download the Marker Lamp from the email he sends out at publication time. Of that total, 53.4% download during the initial
announcement and another 10.7% over the balance of the month.

Areas to address
Advertising in Pike and Dealer ads still need attention. There has been some interest in upgrading ads to color, but no new pike nor dealers are participating. There has been no particular effort to acquire new ads this year, but this is an ongoing situation.

Long term projects update
Major projects are on hold to gather time and resources to accomplish them.

Website Chair Jeff Palmer reported that:

Our service provider, Host Gator, continues to provide an excellent service. The website for the upcoming 2019 convention is beginning to take shape. The URL www.2019TexasSpecial.com points to what is the host site for the 2019 LSR Convention. Hotel, clinic, layout, and contest information is available on the website and will continue to be updated.

It has been a year since the Sn3 Symposium site, http://www.2018sn3symposium.com/, went up and the event was held. This site will be backed up and taken down in the next few months.

I'm still researching the use of adding content to the web site for Vendors and Sponsors. My thought was this:
Vendors – This would be a quick way of finding major vendor sites
Sponsors – This would be the location the different division could advertise there sponsors.
Any thoughts? Is there something else that need to be added to the website?
The election website www.geekwithtrains.com has served us well in the past and is being updated for the 2019 election. The site will set to open the election at 12:01 AM on the first of March and shutdown at 12:00 PM on March 30, 2019.

No progress has been made Division 3's website http://trinityriverdivision.com/. More work is needed but the foot print has been setup.

As to the Officer's Page, use the link at the bottom of the LSR Officer's page or the URL - http://www.lonestarregion.com/node/7. Please remember, right now security is by obscurity or the general lack of availability of the material. No logon required. Don't share.

Over the past 6 months, 26 LSR emailing's have gone out, The volume will continue in support of the upcoming 2019 Convention.

Normal activity continues, as the posting of reports, motions, and emailing for the upcoming Annual Meeting.

Youth Chair, Jim Lemmond reported:

The 2018 LSR Convention awarded four Youth Awards. The awardees received recognition at the LSR Banquet in Round Rock, Texas. Each awardee received an engraved plaque from the LSR Board of Directors. Jim Lemmond, Youth Chairman, made the presentations.

Nominees for the 2018 Lone Star Region Youth Awards:

LSR Board of Director's Youth Award:
Christian Johnson-Carr (18) – LSR Division 1

LSR Division 1 Youth Award:
Trey (Jack) Wood (13)

LSR Division 2 Youth Award:
N/A
LSR Division 3 Youth Award:
N/A

LSR Division 4 Youth Award:
Sam Nicastro (15)

LSR Division 5 Youth Award:
N/A

LSR Division 6 Youth Award:
N/A

LSR Division 7 Youth Award:
N/A

LSR Division 8 Youth Award:
Toby Buxton (17)

Education Chair, John Garfield reports:

Division 1, Mike Mackey
Presentation on railroads and history of Fort Worth and Tarrant County
Using Ground Goop
DCC basics
Making Molds and Castings
Presentation at Plano Train Show

Construction of a display 6X6 layout for corporation in

Houston with participation from members of both District 1and 3.

Division 2, Ken Mason
Clinic on tree making and basic scenery.
Train show, Ponchatoula, Louisiana
Modular Monday – construction of module HO units to promote the hobby.
Open House – Crescent City Model Railroad Club and Mid-South Club in Baton Rouge , open house participation and education support.
Assistance with Operation Lifesaver.
Train Day – Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroaders.

Division 6, Don Winn
South Texas Railroad Society clinics, show and tell on home layouts.
Painting with Pan Pastels.
Designing model railroads (basics)
Make and take clinic making a MOW from a boxcar.
Meeting with South Texas Model Railroad Society and clinic on making structures from paper.

Division 7, Don Kimmel
Presentations at Operation Lifesaver clinics
Boy Scout orientation to the hobby (5 classes).

Membership Chair, open position – No Report.

Photography, Dave Lamberts – No Report.

Events Chair, Bill Dryden reported:

We are gaining ground as more folks are sending in notices for up-coming events, though I am still getting some notices few days or so after I have submitted the column. There have been several folks who have called, following up with e-mails with more details.
Anyone having events to be published, please send me the details:
bdr149@airmail.net

A reminder to all:
Please consider our deadlines for submittals and publications to allow adequate lead time to correctly announce your event – Column submission deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October; publication of the Marker Lamp is the middle of the following month.

OLD BUSINESS

Chuck Lind open old business by giving his thanks for the support shown and the contributions made in honor of his late son. Chuck went to praise the efforts of the LSR to step up in times of issues, like the Hurricane Relief effort. Thank you Chuck.
Gert Muller provided a budget report and proposed a new budget for the 2019/2020 fiscal year:

Motion 12 was made by Gert Muller and 2nd by Donna Orr. After a brief discussion, the motion was voted on and passed. Approving the new budget.

NEW BUSINESS

The first order of new business was state of the LSR projectors used at the LSR conventions. At present, the LSR has 3 projectors. One of those projectors is burnt out, a second is experiencing a color shift, and indication that the projector is about to go out, and the third projector will only accept VGA connections – not compatible with many of today's computers. To address this issue Marc LaChey purposed Motion 2 to replace the 3 eight year old projectors. After some discussion, the purchase will need to meet the following restrictions:
1) Must provide HDMI, USB, and Fire Wire connectivity.
2) Must have a hard shell case to store each projector in.
3) Total cost can not exceed $1700.00
Motion 2 was made by Marc LaChey and 2nd by Donna Orr. After a brief discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

Jim Lemmond, the LSR Youth Chair, made Motion 3 to modify the LSR By-Laws to allow Divisions that have more than one youth to present for the youth award can do so by allowing that youth to use one of the open divisions, a division not sponsoring a youth this year. Ray Byer seconded the motion, and then the motion was opened for discussion. Gert Muller pointed out that this would affect the budget that had just been approved earlier, and raised the question on long term viability of the motion based on income vs expenses. To support the full complement of youth awards, 9, 8 division and 1 BOD awards, could cost $400.00 per year. During this discussion, Mike Mackey, Division 1 Director, pledged $50/year for the next 4 years. Don Kimmell offered to redirect his NMRA annual rebate to support the youth Award (annual amount not know at this time). After considerable discussion, the motion was put to a vote and passed. With that the 2019/2020 Budget was amended to allow the expenditure.

Jim Lemmond was not done. Jim had at his own expense for the past several years been having youth award plaques made. Jim purposed Motion 4, to have a budget line item added to the LSR Budget for Youth Award Plaques - $250.00. This motion was seconded by Ray Byer, which allowed this motion to be opened for discussion. After a short discussion, in which Gert Muller pointed out that the 2019/2020 Budget would need to be amended, the motion passed, as did the amended Budget. Duane Richardson has offered to help with the Youth Award plaques in an effort to reduce the cost.

This brings us to the heart of the Youth Awards. Jim Lemmond presented 9 youth awards in 5 motions, Motion 5, 6, 7, 8, & 10. For the sake of space and the 20 pages of biographs, I'm submitting a summary of the awards as follows (details available on the LSR website):

Division 3 Awards (Motion 5):
James Knabb,
Katherine Moore,
Brooklyn Thompson, &
Nathan Finley.

Division 4 Award (Motion 6):
Lawson Jones.

Division 6 Award (Motion 7):
Michael Ruffalo.
Division 8 Awards (Motion8):
Kate Stewart, &
Jose Velasquez.
BOD Award (Motion 10):
Raj Subramamiam.
All five motions was seconded by Ray Byer. The motions were opened for discussion but none followed. Each motion was voted on and each motion passed.

Donna Orr opened a discussion about convention banking. In the current banking environment, a "temporary" account are no longer possible. A temporary account is an account that lasts less than a year. The revisions to banking laws prohibits such accounts. As a result, opening a temporary account to support a convention is an issue, first experienced at the 2018 Round Rock convention. To address this issue, Donna introduced a motion, Motion 9, to allow a Convention account to be opened under the LSR account; a secondary account. This account would be rotated between conventions and since it is part of a primary account, it satisfies all of the new banking laws. Ray Byer seconded this motion and the motion went to discussion. During the discussion process, it was decided to table this motion until the June BOD meeting, and the committee of Donna Orr, Marc LaChey, and Gert Muller would research this option and report back to the BOD in June.

Riley Triggs, purposed the idea of creating a Marker Lamp Index. The idea was actually originated by Michael Harang and presented to Riley for his consideration. The idea was well received, and a committee was formed to look into the possibilities. The committee consists of Duane Richardson, Gert Muller, and Michael Harang. A follow-up on what was found is to be presented at the June BOD meeting.

Ken Kaiser, our new Membership Chair, presented his vision of how he wants to handle membership. The biggest feature is, each Division will have a membership chair and this will be the person is whom he will communicate. So, Ken is looking for a few good men. He has gotten responses from Division 1, 2, and 3 but he is still waiting for responses from the other regions. Let's step up and help Ken out as we all know how important it is for us to expand our membership. Ken has also requested that the Membership Chair for each Division be added to the CREW page for that Division. The addition is do able, but it require contact information and a photo for each chair person.

Loren Neufeld, our Contest Room Chair, needs material for plaques. Loren purposed Motion 11 to spend $300 for the material needed to build the base for the plaques to be used for the 2019 and 2020 conventions in the contest room. The expenditure will put him over budget for this calendar year, but will reduce the contest room costs for the next two years. Mike Mackey seconded the motion which opened up the discussion on the motion. The discussion was brief and the vote passed the motion, allowing the contest room to be over budget this year.

Peter Kazmir brought to a close the 2018 Convention in Round Rock. He presented his survey finds, and final totals, closing the books. The convention was very successful and as an attendee, there were good times for all who attended. Thank you Peter and to your crew.

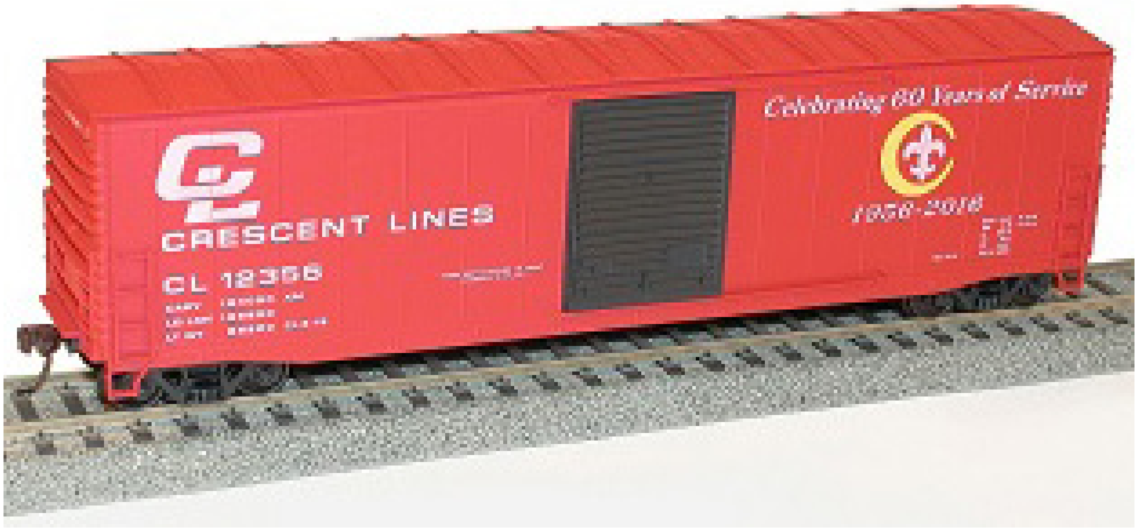
Donna Orr provided the status for the upcoming 2019 Convention – June 27-30, 2019 in Frisco, TX. All is on schedule and progress is being made on the outstanding tasks. On-line Registration is available -
http://2019texasspecial.com/online-registration
It's time for you to show your support for the LSR and the NMRA, REGISTER!!

Bob Barnett provided insight to the 2020 Convention that will be tied to the Greater Houston Train Show in February of 2020 – February 13-15, 2020. At the present time, there isn't a primary hotel, but that is being worked on and the detail will be made available, as soon as the details are worked out.

We need a host for the 2021 Convention. It's time for someone to step up.

Chuck called for final comments, and Mike Mackey placed a shameless plug for the up and coming NMRA election in which he is running for At Large World Wide Director. The election is in February, so don't fail to vote.

Chuck Lind closed the meeting at 9:43 PM. ML



CCMRC 60th Anniversary Club Car

Order Form

The Crescent City Model Railroad club in Metairie, Louisiana still has a few of its Accurail Crescent Lines 50 foot HO Scale boxcar that was made to celebrate its 60th Anniversary in 2016. It is available for a donation of $30.00 for each car, plus $6.00 shipping for the first car and $2.00 for each additional car ordered. It is available in one road number that commemorates the clubs founding in March of 1956. Extra decals are also available for just $4.00 per set. To place an order, please send your payment made out to CCMRC for the correct amount to:

Crescent City Model Railroad Club
601 N. Lester Ave
Metairie, LA 70003-6131

Quantity: ________ X $30.00 each

Total for cars: $ ___________

Shipping: $6.00

Additional Shipping per car $2.00 ea $___________

Total Enclosed $___________

Thank you for supporting the Crescent City Model Railroad Club!

NOW AVAILABLE!

Color

Pike and Dealer Ads

Pike and dealer ads are now available in color for the same price! Share your railroad or advertise your business to others while supporting the Lone Star Region.

- Do you have a herald for your railroad?
- Is there a unique feature?
- What is the name of your hotshot freight or crack passenger service?

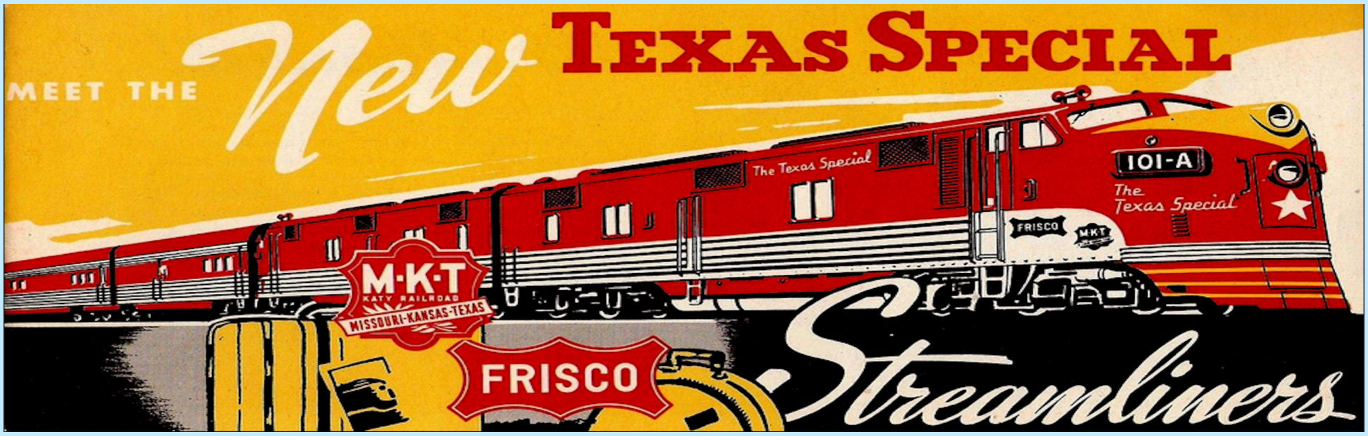
Let everyone know about it with a color ad!

Pike ads are **$8 per year** and dealer ads are **$20 per year**.

Payment should be made out to:
LSR NMRA

Contact Speed Muller
lsrtreasurer@huntatrophy.com

Ads can then be sent as a JPG file attached to an email to:
rileytriggs@gmail.com


MEET THE New TEXAS SPECIAL
The Texas Special
101-A
The Texas Special
FRISCO
M-K-T
M-K-T KATY RAILROAD MISSOURI-KANSAS-TEXAS
FRISCO
Streamliners

COMING SOON!

2019 LSR CONVENTION

JUNE 27-30

FRISCO, TEXAS

http://2019texasspecial.com/

SPECIAL CONTEST!

2019 THE NEW TEXAS SPECIAL
LSR CONVENTION, FRISCO, TX
JUNE 27-29, 2019

BACK FROM THE DEAD!

THE SECOND LIFE OF A CABOOSE!

Here are the rules: Start with any caboose; plastic, wood, metal; ready-to-run, shake-the-box, craftsman kit, scratchbuilt; any prototype you like. Only limitation – it must have once existed ***AS A CABOOSE!***

Now build it into anything you want – other than a caboose! This is the ultimate kitbash. You may add other materials as required, but it must be obvious that your entry once was a caboose. Example – building a shed from stripwood and claiming the boards came from a caboose will NOT be accepted.

First, Second and Third Place plaques will be presented in this special category.

If you wish, you may also enter your model in any other category for which it qualifies – EXCEPT CABOOSES!

Director Reports

Cowcatcher Division 1

by Mike Mackey, MMR

director@cowcatcherdivision.org
cowcatcherdivision.com

Division 1 has shown that the momentum that started in 2017, has continued throughout 2018, thanks to a fantastic leadership team that helps make my job easy! Attendance continues to be on an upward trend and currently we are averaging around 40 members per meeting. With monthly meetings hosting clinics on topics from local railroad history to castings and making molds, members are learning skills and techniques that are helping them become better and better. Several Division 1 members walked away with well-deserved awards and honors at this year's regional convention.

Members are doing more and more to promote our organization as well. More members than ever volunteered to help with the NMRA booth and clinics at the fall train show.

We invite everyone to visit our division website, www.cowcatcherdivision.org, to keep up with our activities, both past and future. We've already completed our complete meeting and education schedule for 2019. Come join us on the second Saturday of every month for fun and fellowship!

Bayou Division 2

by Ken Mason
series9parts@cox.net
504-722-6610

By the time you read this, the first edition of Bayou Rail is history in the Division 2 and Shreveport area. Operators from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi came to operate on Dr. Richard Kamm's Sue Lines layout, Jim Lofland's Tall Timber & Santa Fe, the Mid-South Model Railroad Club in Baton Rouge and the Crescent Lines of the Crescent City Model Railroad Club in Metairie. After the op session at the CCMRC, there was a group dinner at Smitty's Seafood in Kenner that I believe was thoroughly enjoyable. Each attendee took home a souvenir tool pouch that can be used for operations wherever they may go.

Back in January, the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroaders, in conjunction with Division 2 of LSR, NMRA hosted Train Day at the Jones Creek Library in Baton Rouge. The head count for visitors was over 350 for this annual growing event. Seven operating layouts and many exhibitors greeted guest and many children to promote the hobby and educate the public on railroads and railroad safety. All of our area local clubs were represented with layouts and displays from the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroaders, The Mid-South Model Railroad Club, TCA of Baton Rouge and the Crescent City Model Railroad Club. Operation Lifesaver gave hourly presentations on grade crossing safety.

The next Ponchatoula Train Show took place on March 2nd, right in the middle of our Mardi Gras celebrations. This show has been growing over the past few years and now has most of the area model railroad clubs represented at each show. The area clubs in southeast Louisiana have all been working very well together to help promote the hobby of model railroading in Division 2. I expect this trend will continue as we are all pushing for a common goal.

I'm still hoping to begin more regular meetings and/or clinics in Division 2, but sometimes other activities and schedules get in the way. When something becomes scheduled it will be sent out by email to the division members and posted on the Division 2 Facebook page.

I am looking forward to attending the LSR convention in Frisco this summer and hope to bring along a few Division 2 members for their first time attending a convention.
The sad news to report is that I recently heard that the Lake Area Model Railroaders in the Lake Charles area will be losing their location for the Sweet Lake & Gulf model railroad inside the Lake Charles Children's Museum since the museum is relocating and the club and layout no longer fit into the future plans of the museum.

Finally, each Division Director has been tasked to appoint a membership chairperson for their respective divisions. I have appointed Maureen Mason to be my division 2 membership chair. Maureen is also a member of the Crescent City Model Railroad Club in Metairie and currently serves as the CCMRC club Secretary and PR chairperson.

North East Texas Division 3

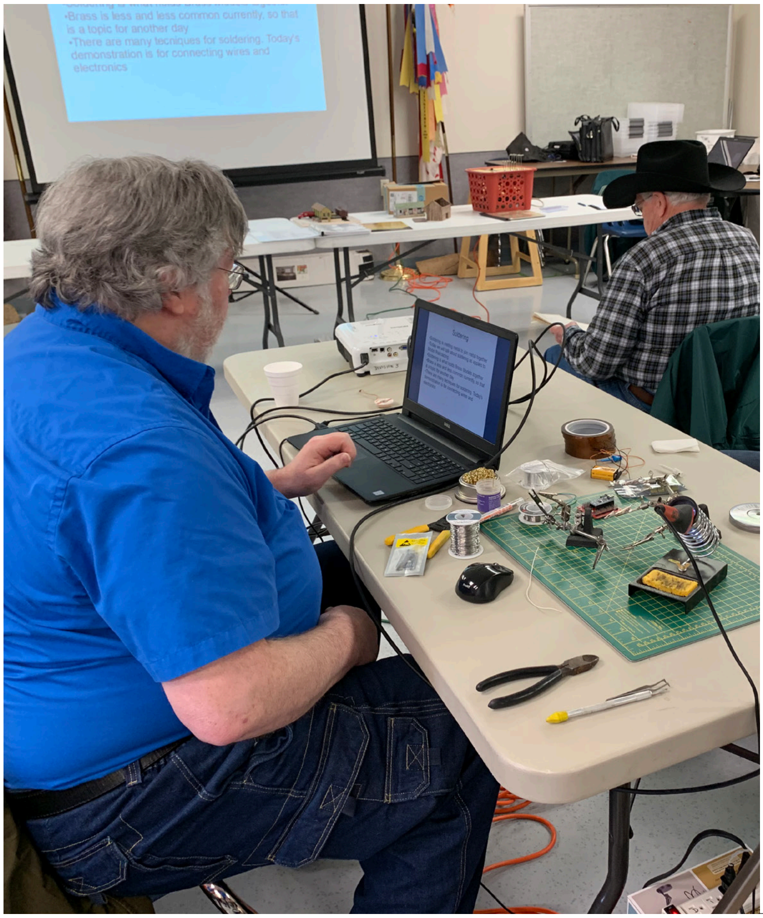
by Donna Orr
donnalorrtx@gmail.com
972-342-8598

Things are moving right along. Can't believe our Christmas season is over and our Division 3 Christmas party has come and gone. But here are some of the highlights.

HARRIS HOBBIES
"Your East Texas Train Store"
PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH

Here we are in January. Back to meetings. But wait, the Plano Train Show. We signed up 10 members at this show.

Having a clinic every month is a great idea - something for everyone.

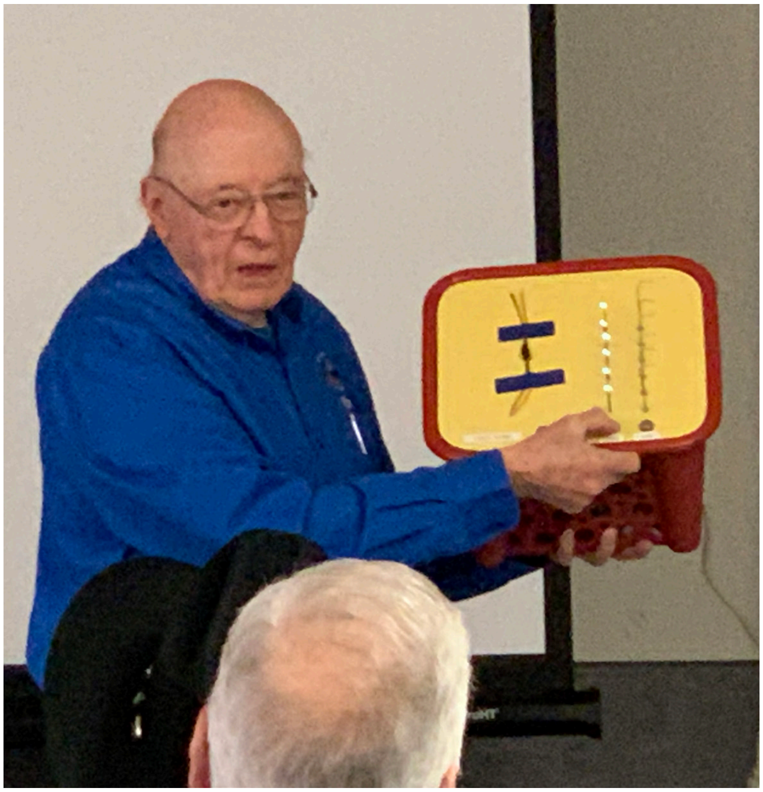

•Brass is less and less common currently, so that is a topic for another day
•There are many tecniques for soldering. Today's demonstration is for connecting wires and electronics

Tom Greco and his all time favorite B&O Engine 5308.

This engine was kitbashed from a Tyco Pacific I bought in 1964. It's a model of B&O Class P-7c Engine 5308, built in 1927 and modified to this appearance in 1944-50.

The model features a scratchbuilt tender body and a number of scratchbuilt accessories for the engine, as well as a new cab, pilot, driving wheels, headlight, sand dome, bell and a wealth of other brass parts. It has a complete cab interior and engine crew, as well as a tomcat that belongs to the fireman. The engine was modeled based on a color slide taken during its last year in service, when it was still kept clean and highly polished. Engine 5308 is my very favorite locomotive of all time.

And here is Vance Nurmi is displaying his LED street light project:



And please remember to register for the 68th ANNUAL NMRA LONE STAR REGION CONVENTION. Go to: 2019texasspecial.com to register, remember we can only have 150 attendees, so register early. Here's your convention committee hard at work.

You might ask, where is the committee Chairman? Well of course SHE is behind the camera.

See you next time.

CenTex Division 4

by Bob Thiele

director@centexnmra.org
CenTexNMRA.org

Since the regional convention, Division four has gathered three times to share knowledge, projects completed or in work and companionship. We have meet in July, September and November. I have been surprised by the number of show and tell projects that have been brought in. Lately we have had to clear tables to make room for the items.

The clinics and mini clinics that have been presented were excellent. Jerry Wilson, MMR, presented a clinic on how to construct switch and diamond frogs which are electrical isolated. Dave Barrett conducted the first part of making trees from small gauge wire. This was a hands-on clinic with all members constructing a tree to take home. Part two will be held in January. The division has been conducting several mini clinics highlighting new ideas and techniques that the members have been using.

When it comes to advancing the exposure of the hobby the division has several fronts that we are working on. Members of the division have formed a modular group with the purpose of exposing the public to the hobby. The group invites and brings the public to their monthly gathering and have them operate and help construct projects that will go on the individual modules. The module group has set up at the Taylor Tx. Train show and will be setting up in December at the Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin. On Friday the children from the school and facility will visit the layout. On Saturday after breakfast with Santa the layout will be open to the public. We have also invited and brought individuals and families to the division meetings and shown them the hospitality of model railroading.

Our July division meeting was very enjoyable as a large number of attendees participated with projects and information that they pasted on. We had to clear several tables so members could display their show and tell projects.

Jerry Wilson MMR presented a Mini clinic on the construction of railroad diamonds and one of a kind switches. He demonstrated how he electrically isolates the frog of a switch and diamond flange bearing areas. He showed the membership that construction of a switch or diamond is within their modeling capability.

A second mini clinic titled "scratch building with plastic", part 1was presented. The method for determining the size of a building from a picture was described and construction methods to make the structure were shown.

Our next meeting will be at the Austin Northwest Recreation Center. Details and directions are available at https://centexnmra.org/meeting.html.

Division 5

by Dave Lamberts

DavidWL1944@aol.com
806.792.7244

The membership of Division Five is not known for their construction exuberance. However, the recent introduction of tabletop HO scale modules has peaked some interest. As the name implies, the module does not require legs, but fits on any flat table top. I think that the N-scalers originally came up with this idea and the HO group sort of copied the concept. Nevertheless, we now have over a dozen modules in our "collection" which is good for our club. I have the details of the specs for such modules if anyone is interested, let me know and I can snail mail them to you.

Division 6

by Don Winn
donnswinn@gmail.com
940.391.0950

For the second half of 2018, we continued the activities that were initiated earlier in the year. The South Texas Railroad Socials continued to enjoy a high attendance rate. The socials include a variety of clinics, Show and Tell, and a home layout tour. We also continued with Make-n-Take clinics which appeal to a smaller group of modelers. Overall, it represents a great increase in activities in the division, compared to the most recent years.
We also nominated a young man for the LSR Youth Award.

Education Report
The new South Texas Railroad Socials continued with a second event on June 30th, with over 40 in attendance. The program included a slide show of "Railroads Around San Antonio", followed by a demonstrating of painting (yes, painting, not just weathering) with Pan Pastels.

At the NMRA national convention in Kansas City in August, one of our distinguished division MMRs, John Lowrance, presented 3 clinics which were all well-attended.

At the South Texas Railroad Social in September we had a clinic on designing a model railroad from ground up, plus a railfan presentation on hiking in a canyon to see a bridge, and a railroad museum update.

In November, the Make and Take clinic was making a MOW shed from a boxcar, taking advantage of the free boxcar program from the NMRA. To the shell, we added the roofwalk, a man door and door frame and structure to support the boxcar. We also stained and glued ties to form an equipment deck and steps.

We wrapped up the year with another South Texas Railroad social at new venue. Meeting at a local restaurant

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UESS
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ks For Coming
Next Trip!
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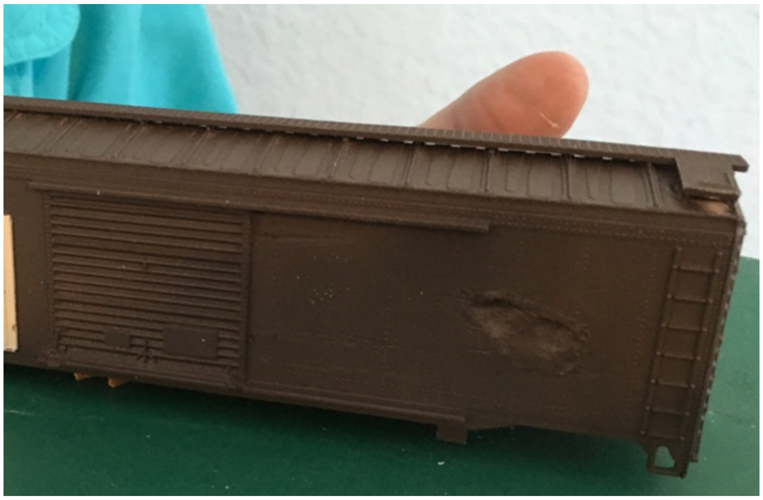

allowed for some fellowship before the program, while also providing a no-cost meeting room for the program. The featured clinic was an introduction to constructing structures from paper kits. The meeting concluded with a slide show of layouts open in the Houston area over the prior month.

BOXCAR
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STORE

Division 7

by Don Kimmell
elf4kcs@mac.com
318.798.7718

Division Seven (7) membership has held steady over the previous six months. We have not had any division-wide meetings since last summer. In the past, division membership would gather at one of our "local" train shows and compare notes, etc. Unfortunately, the lack of any events in this area, has prevented our "informal" gatherings.

Had one Boy Scout presentation, in Junction City, LA/AR, it straddles the state/parish lines in North-Central Louisiana, just northwest of Rum Center.

A number of division members manned a daylong educational/Operation Lifesaver booth at a number of local civic events throughout East Texas and North Louisiana, these included: a state (LA) sponsored Transportation Conference; the Minden Historical Society's Heritage Event; and "Bonnie and Clyde Days" in Arcadia.

Texas Gulf Division 8

by Jim Lemond
jimlem@verzion.net

The annual Division 8 meeting and picnic was held on Saturday, September 29, 2018, at Zube Park. In spite of the early rain, the running of trains and serving of the hot dogs all ran to perfection. Ray Byer, President of Division 8, performed the chef's role in the serving of the hot dogs. All attending had a great time as guests of the Houston Live Steamers Club.

Division 8 Train Clubs:

Houston Area Live Steamers Club:

The Houston Area Live Steamers is devoted to live steam modeling: from locomotives, to stationary engines, to tractors and boats, with a particular emphasis on model trains large enough to ride. Our members own engines and trains in 1", 1-1/2", 2-1/2" and 3" scales and our dual gauge track serves both 4-3/4" and 7-1/2" gauges. A Gauge One track has been in operation since April 26, 2003 and is one of the largest Gauge One tracks in the area. https://hals.org/

Petticoat Junction: from Blake Bogs

Petticoat Junction is a local fellowship group meeting at Valley Ranch BBQ the first Friday of every month at 6:00 PM. Originally formed in 2004 by Bill Wilson, this club offers monthly clinics, an annual open house, and videos before the clinic. For more information and reminders, contact us at petticoatjunctionrr@gmail.com

San Jacinto Model Railroad Club:

Meetings are the first Tuesday of January through November, except in July when the first Tuesday falls on the July 4th holiday, then the meeting will be the 2nd Tuesday, at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet. Meeting time is 7 to 9 pm. Visitors are always welcome!

The monthly programs consist of "how to do" clinics, slide shows and discussion on railroading. The San Jacinto Model Railroad Club sponsors the annual Greater Houston Area Model Train Show as well as the Fall Model Railroad Layout Tour. All scales, all gauges are welcome! http://sanjac-modeltrains.org/

Greater Houston Train Show:

The 2019 Greater Houston Train Show will be on Saturday, February 16th, 2019. See the 2019 flyer with all of the details. http://sanjacmodeltrains.org/resources/2019-Public-Flyer-MAP.PDF
Please check back as we get closer for the clinic schedule and further information.

Education:

James S. Hogg IB Magnet Middle School, Houston Independent School District, with support from LSR Division 8 and the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club has formed the Hogg Middle School Model Railroad Club. The club director and sponsor is NMRA and San Jacinto Model Railroad Club member, JayC Williams.

JayC writes, "The main goal of the Hogg Model Railroad Club is to create thoughtful students with an eye for detail, an interest in problem solving, a creative mind that can form a cohesive vision, and a willingness to do the work that makes their vision come alive. Students achieve these goals by learning about real railroads both present and past, forming an idea of how to recreate those railroads in miniature, and then taking the time to learn those skills necessary to make that recreation a reality. We also hope to build a love for railroads and support students in the development of a life-long hobby. Through the structure of the club, there is room for students who wish to begin a model railroad of their own to do such in our group, and retain their creation for their own enjoyment."

JayC further states, "Our club is a collection of students I sponsor who build, maintain, and operate an HO scale modular model railroad. In order to make this a viable system students have to learn how to build model rail cars, keep model locomotives functioning, create realistic scenery, and build scale buildings so the model railroad begins to look realistic. This is an ongoing project, and each student no matter their skill level or ability has a place to contribute.
Division 8 has provided a quantity of box car shells donated by the NMRA National Office. The San Jacinto Model Railroad has provided some monetary support to help start the club.

National Narrow Gauge Convention:

Division 8 member and LSR President was an award winner at the NNGC 2018. He received the following awards:

1st place off-line diorama
1st place in geared steam
3rd place in special equipment

Lone Star Convention:

The 2020 LSR Convention is in the planning stages by Bob Barnett, member of the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club. The current plans are to hold the LSR Convention in conjunction with the Greater Houston Train Show in February, 2020.

Annual Houston Area Layout Tour 2018:

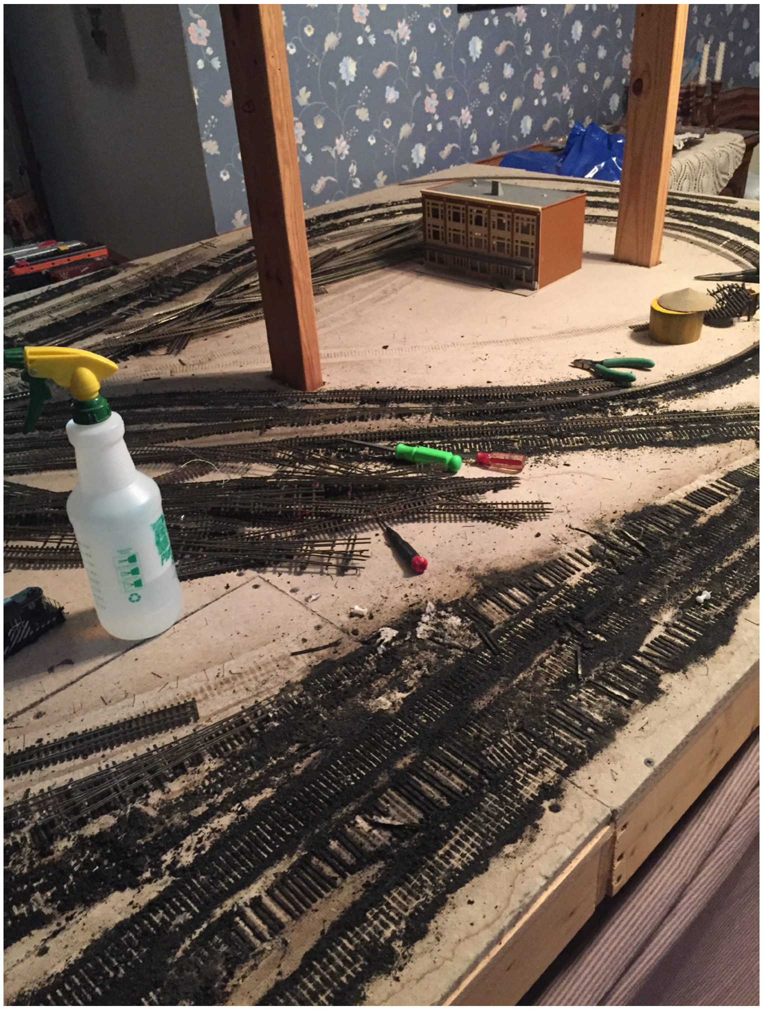
The annual tour of layouts in the Houston area began on October 27th, and ran through December 2nd. The tour operates on each weekend of October through December at both individual and club layouts. The layouts are located in College Station to Beaumont and the Houston metropolitan area. All tours are free of charge.

Publication:

In October, 2018, Kalmbach Publications, "2019 Great Model Railroads" published an article on the Gold Creek Timber Company On30 layout built by Loren Neufeld, MMR and Jim Lemmond. The photos were by Division 8 member, Bob Were.

Nominations

by Blake Bogs
superchief1520@gmail.com



Hello All,

Last year marked the end of my first layout. The last track officially came up January 2, 2019. Although I'm sad to move on from my former layout, I'm eager to move on from HO/HOn3 to O/On3. Switching gives me an opportunity to do a lot more scratch build and fix mistakes that I made when I was in HO Scale.

One of the main mistakes I made was that I had TOO MUCH TRACK! I love track. If I could put in 100 switches in one yard, I probably could. If you don't believe me, ask Jim Brandenburg. I wanted to put in as much switching as possible when we were working on his railroad over the summer. I put in a lot of switches on my layout since I needed a lot of storage, but this became a problem with the dual gauge. It took an hour just to tweak a switch that eventually needed work again. HO Dual Gauge is wonderful but takes a lot work.

I would still do HO/HOn3 starting again. Why? I was a kid on a budget 10 years ago. The HO allowed me to model when I was younger because it was affordable and I was able to get great equipment.

To end my editorial for this issue, I will switch gears. The LSR convention is coming up fast! The convention is go-

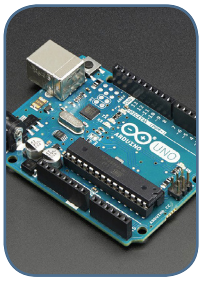
ing to be great this year! It is exciting to see all the plans come together once again to not only see old friends, but to learn new skills, make new friends, and show off your modeling.

If you haven't already, get started on those new projects! The contest room will be open during the convention and they are ready to judge your model(s)!

Additionally, election time is near. Our election will be conducted March 1, 2019- March 31, 2019. Please vote! If you have trouble voting, email me! My email is superchief1520@gmail.com. I will try to get back to you within 48 hours.

Keep them trains running.

Treasurer Report



by Speed Muller, Treasurer
lsrtreasurer@huntatrophy.com
469-345-0022

We still have money in the Delattre Fund for new members who served or are serving in our defense forces. We would like Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 to make use of this, please.

There has been some questions about the accounting shown below. The LSR is holding money in the two separate funds (Bob Clarke and Delattre) and we also keep money for divisions that do not receive enough rebate money to keep a bank account open. So instead of showing five sets of books, you might find that the money that is not shown in income or disbursement, is in the change in these funds or "liabilities". I will change how we show this and certainly want people to ask more questions!

Third Fiscal Quarter of 2018/2019 :	
Beginning Balances (4/1/2018)	
LSR Unrestricted Accounts	$38,844.05
Beginning Total LSR Net Worth	$38,844.05
Bob Clarke Award	$ 528.86
Division 2 and 7 Rebates	$ 312.50
Delattre Fund	$ 1,200.00
Bank Saldo	$40,885.41
LSR Proceeds	
NMRA Rebate	$ 885.00
Total Proceeds	$ 885.00
LSR Disbursements	
Election Printing and Mail	$ 90.96
Convention Non-rail Activities	$ 500.00
Contest Room	$ 239.21
Audio Visual Expenses	$ 61.70
Banking Costs	$ 21.00
Signs and Printing for shows	$ 80.00
Total Disbursements	$ 992.87
Net Proceeds-Disbursements	$ -107.87
Ending Balances (10/30/2018)	
LSR Unrestricted Accounts Total	$38,736.18
Total LSR Net Worth	$38,736.18
Bob Clarke Award	$ 528.86
Division 2 and 7 Rebates	$ 312.50
Delattre Fund	$ 1.200.00
Bank Salso	$40,777.54

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Class I and short line news
Getting the right shot
With digital photography, layout photos are easier to shoot but knowing the basics are still just as essential
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Texas Central aims to be first high-speed rail in U.S.

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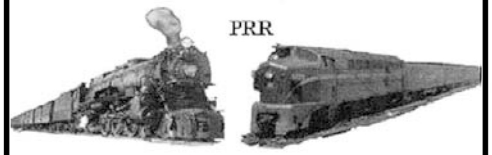

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